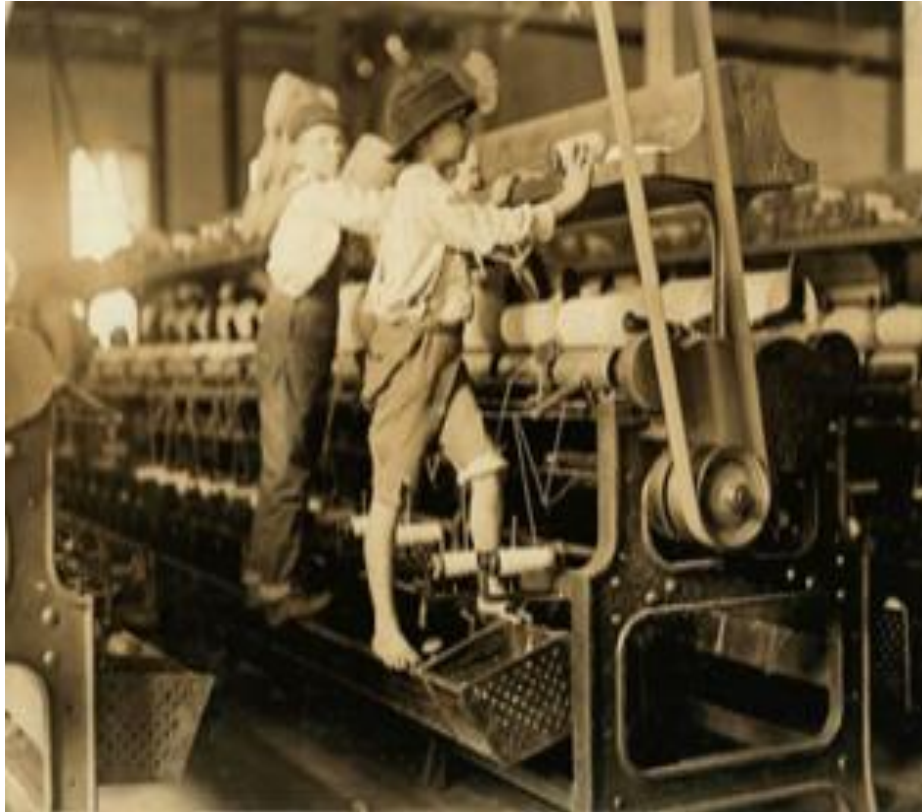


**St. John's Lutheran Church
Fifteenth Sunday after Pentecost
September 5, 2021**

HONORING LABOR DAY



Child labor in the mills. 1909 Macon, Georgia
Hine, Lewis Wickes, 1874-1940. *Mill Children in Macon*, from *Art in the Christian Tradition*,
a project of the Vanderbilt Divinity Library, Nashville, TN.
<https://diglib.library.vanderbilt.edu/act-imagelink.pl?RC=55696> [retrieved August 31, 2021].
Original source: http://commons.wikimedia.org/wiki/File:Mill_Children_in_Macon.jpg.

PRELUDE

WELCOME on this first Sunday of September, the 15th Sunday after Pentecost. As we think about our calling to serve as Christians, we honor this weekend all whose labor, whose work, talent, skills, willingness and desire to serve others is essential and builds a caring community.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Valley View communion and showing of a video of the concert with Lisa Griffith and Patty Loudenslager will take place in the Terrace Recreation Room Tuesday September 14 at 6:30. Please sign up in the Narthex to volunteer to help set up, serve communion or offer friendship and fellowship for this gathering.

*HYMN ~ *Rock of Ages, Cleft for Me*

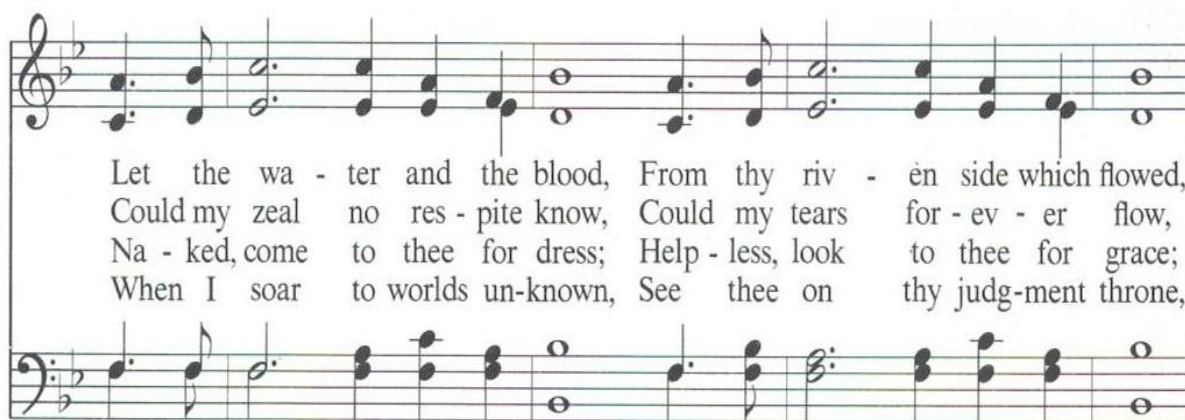
LBW # 327

Rock of Ages, Cleft for Me

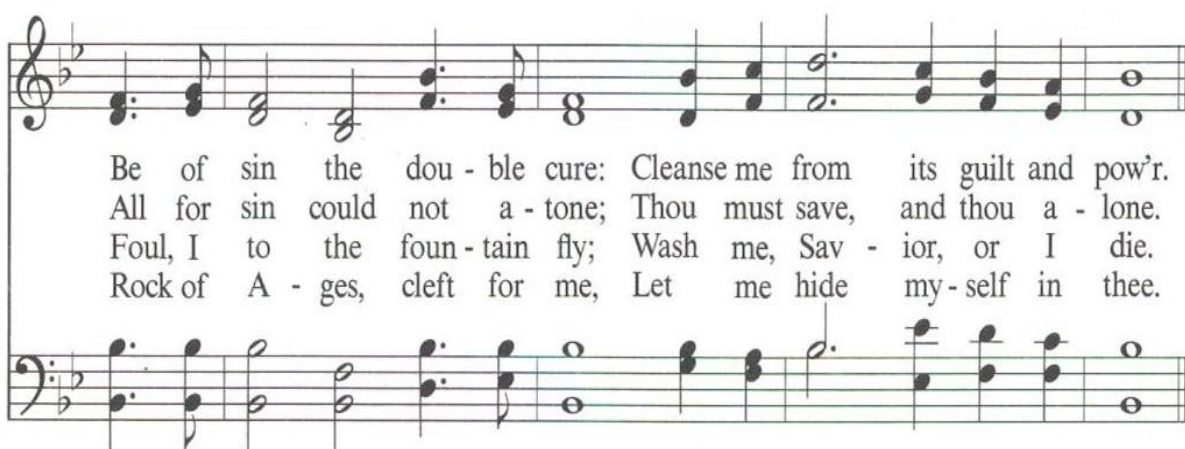
327



1 Rock of A - ges, cleft for me, Let me hide my - self in thee;
 2 Not the la - bors of my hands Can ful - fill thy law's de - mands;
 3 Noth - ing in my hand I bring; Sim - ply to thy cross I cling.
 4 While I draw this fleet - ing breath, When mine eye - lids close in death,



Let the wa - ter and the blood, From thy riv - en side which flowed,
 Could my zeal no res - pite know, Could my tears for - ev - er flow,
 Na - ked, come to thee for dress; Help - less, look to thee for grace;
 When I soar to worlds un - known, See thee on thy judg - ment throne,



Be of sin the dou - ble cure: Cleanse me from its guilt and pow'r.
 All for sin could not a - tone; Thou must save, and thou a - lone.
 Foul, I to the foun - tain fly; Wash me, Sav - ior, or I die.
 Rock of A - ges, cleft for me, Let me hide my - self in thee.

***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 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,

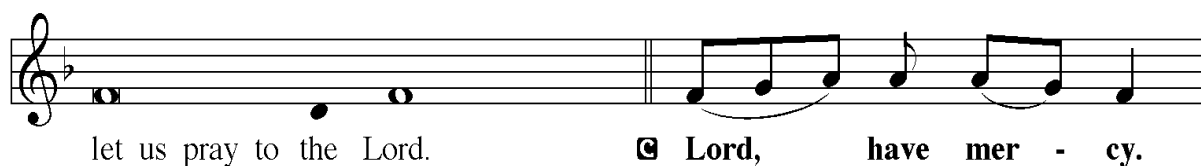
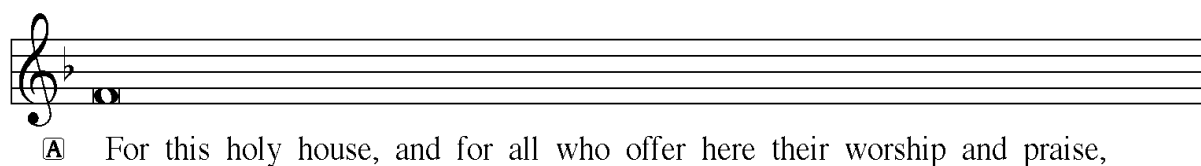
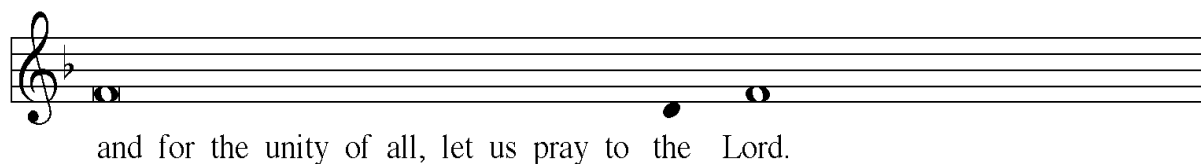
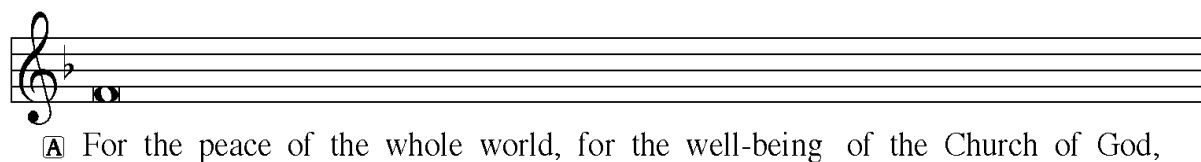
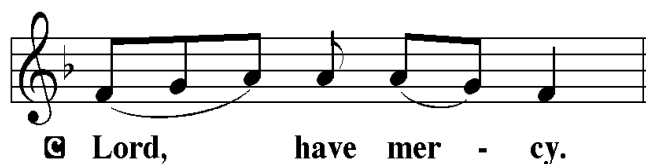
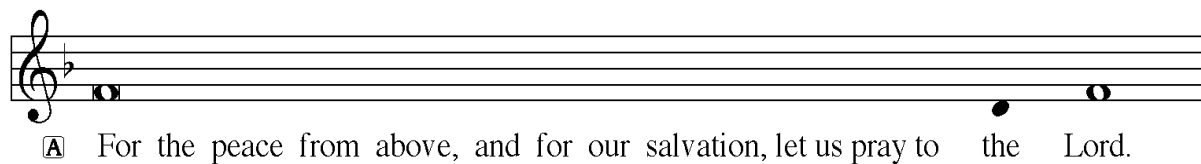
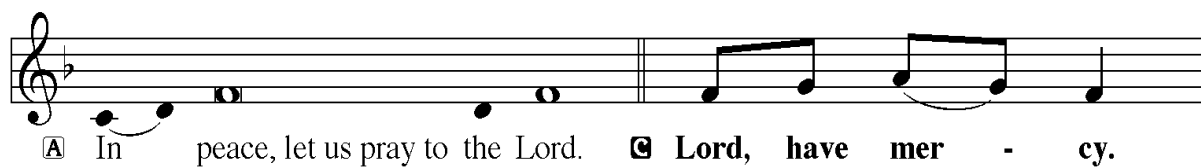
C **we confess that we are in bondage to sin and cannot free ourselves. We have sinned against you in thought, word, and deed, by what we have done and by what we have left undone. We have not loved you with our whole heart; we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. For the sake of your Son, Jesus 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**

***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)**

P Let us pray...

Gracious God, throughout the ages you transform sickness into health and death into life. Open us to the power of your presence and make us a people ready to proclaim your promises to the whole world, through Jesus Christ, our healer and Lord. Amen.

LESSONS

First Lesson ~ A reading from Isaiah 35:4-7

after the reading

R The word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

Psalm 146 ~ *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 James 2:1-17

after the reading

R The word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

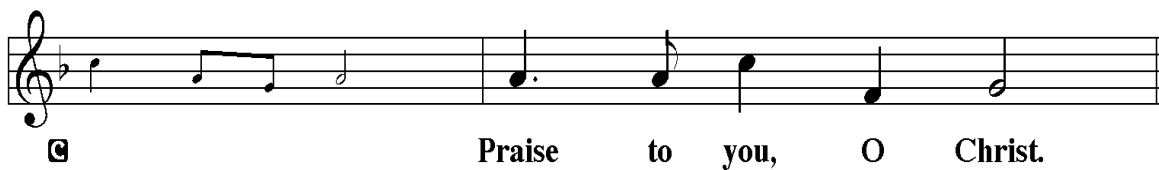
***GOSPEL ACCLAMATION**

Gospel Reading ~ P The Holy Gospel according to Mark the 7th chapter.



The Gospel is read. After the reading

P The Gospel of the Lord



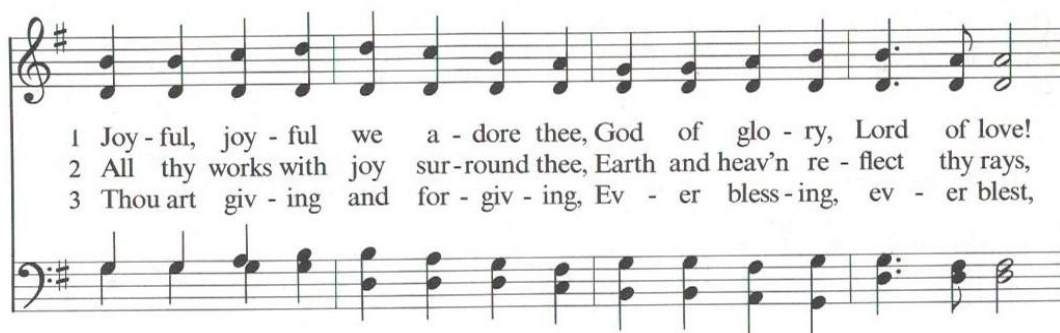
MESSAGE ~ *When is our labor work?*

HYMN ~ Joyful, Joyful we Adore Thee

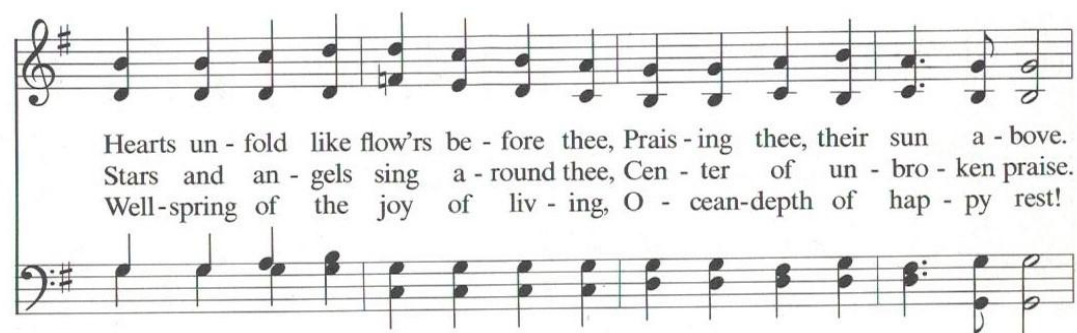
LBW 551

Joyful, Joyful We Adore Thee

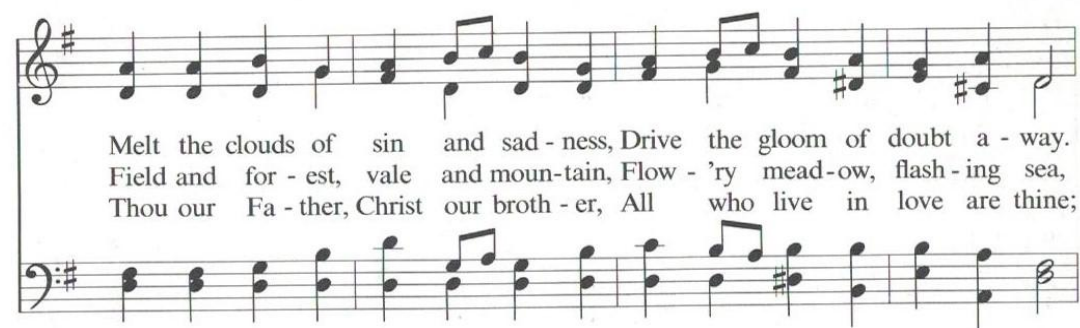
551



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

P Made children and heirs of God's promise, we pray for the church, the world, and all in need.

A brief silence.

***PEACE**

P The peace of the Lord be with you always.

C **And also with you.**

OFFERING ~ you may leave your gifts in one of the offering plates at the end of the front and back pews on your way out.

***OFFERTORY**

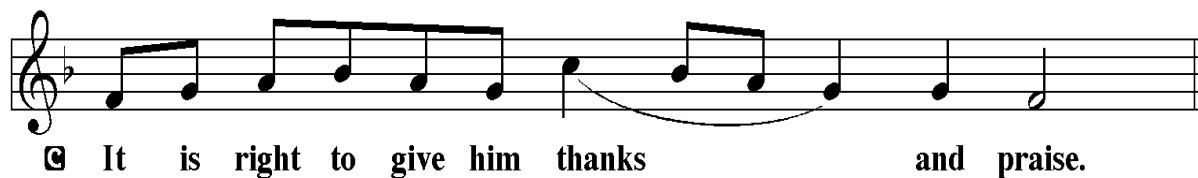
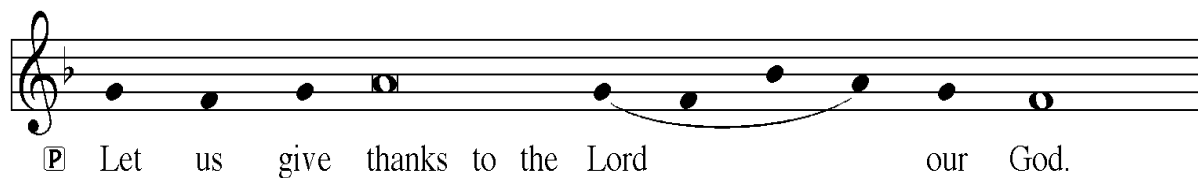

Let the vine - yards be fruit - ful, Lord, and fill to the brim our
cup of bless - ing. Gath - er a har - vest from the
seeds that were sown, that we may be fed with the bread of life.
Gath - er the hopes and the dreams of all; u - nite them with the
prayers we of - fer now. Grace our ta - ble with your
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**



***PREFACE**



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**

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



Let all who seek the Lord re - joice 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.

***POST COMMUNION PRAYER**

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 ~ *Lead On, O King Eternal!*

LBW # 495

495

Lead On, O King Eternal!

1 Lead on, O King e - ter - nal! The day of march has come;
 2 Lead on, O King e - ter - nal, Till sin's fierce war shall cease,
 3 Lead on, O King e - ter - nal: We fol - low, not with fears,

Hence-forth in fields of con - quest Your tents will be our home.
 And ho - li - ness shall whis - per The sweet a - men of peace;
 For glad - ness breaks like morn - ing Wher - e'er your face ap - pears.

Through days of prep - a - ra - tion Your grace has made us strong;
 For not with sword and clash - ing, Nor roll of stir - ring drums,
 Your cross is lift - ed o'er us; We jour - ney in its light;

And now, O King e - ter - nal, We lift our bat - tle song.
 But deeds of love and mer - cy The heav'n - ly king - dom comes.
 The crown a - waits the con - quest; Lead on, O God of might!

***DISMISSAL**

P Go in Peace. Serve the Lord

R Thanks be to God

POSTLUDE

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

Organist: Seulki Susie Yoo

Church Office: 935-2032 **Email us at** secretary@stjohnsbelleville.org

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

Today

Greeter: Carolyn Conner; **Lay Reader:** Deb French

Next Sunday, September 12

Greeters: Bob and Susan Keller; **Lay Reader: VOLUNTEER NEEDED**

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 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.

FROM the PASTOR

Health and Safety: As cases of Covid have shown up recently in the church, social distancing and wearing masks inside and while singing again present a choice you may want to make to protect yourself and others.

Gathering for Congregation Leaders from Mifflin County **with Bishop Collins** is scheduled for **Tuesday, October 12 6:30 PM** at Evangelical Lutheran in Reedsville.

This is a wonderful opportunity for our Council and other church leaders and leaders of other churches to have a time of sharing and prayer with the Bishop. Let Pastor Ela know if you are interested in participating.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

The daycare and church office will be closed tomorrow in observance of Labor Day.

The September/October service schedule to help with Sunday morning duties can be found in the narthex. **Still needed for this month are volunteers to lay read, greet and deliver altar flowers.**

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

After taking the summer off, Council is scheduled to meet this Thursday, September 9 at 6:30pm.

St. John's has Meals on Wheels this month. Still needed are ~

2 ~ 9x12 pans of Apple Crisp for Tuesday the 14th

2 ~ Pound Cakes for Tuesday, September 21
(*Make your own, or purchase ready made from grocery store bakeries*)

Thursday, September 23 ~ Donations to purchase pies
(*Please give to Sue Lynch or drop off at the church office*)

Please be sure to have your dessert at the community Hall by 9am the day it is needed. Thank you!

January 1 thru September 2, 2021
Last week's attendance ~ 26 Offering ~ \$ 1,095.00

St. John's ~ Income \$ 110,125.36 Expense \$ 107,881.07
Net Income \$ 2,244.29

Daycare ~ Income \$ 212,625.12 Expense \$ 197,735.85
Net Income \$ 14,889.27

LUTHERAN DISASTER RESPONSE

HURRICANE IDA

AUGUST 2021

ELCA.org/disaster

Hurricane Ida made landfall near New Orleans on Aug. 29 – exactly 16 years after Hurricane Katrina. As a strong Category 4 storm, Hurricane Ida's 150 mph winds, torrential rain and strong storm surge caused widespread flooding and wind damage in southeastern Louisiana and coastal Mississippi. Strong winds knocked out power lines and electrical substations, leaving more than 1 million people without power, including the entirety of New Orleans.

The impact of Ida is yet to be fully assessed, but with a hurricane of

this scale, rebuilding will be costly and take years. Immediate needs will include basic necessities and temporary housing.

Long after the headlines change, Lutheran Disaster Response will continue to accompany communities on the journey of rebuilding their homes and lives. 100% of your gift will support those affected by Hurricane Ida. Together, we can help provide immediate and long-lasting support. Give today to support this response and others like it.

YES, I WANT TO HELP!

- ☐ Lutheran Disaster Response: *U.S. Hurricanes* \$_____ DDG0073
- ☐ Lutheran Disaster Response: *Where needed most* \$_____ DDG0010

Name _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ ZIP code _____

Email address _____

Give through your congregation or make your check out to
Lutheran Disaster Response and send to:
Evangelical Lutheran Church in America, ELCA Gift Processing Center
P.O. Box 1809, Merrifield, VA 22116-8009

Write "Hurricane Ida" or "Where needed most" on your check's memo line.



Evangelical Lutheran Church in America

God's work. Our hands.