

St. John's Lutheran Church Belleville, PA



Thirteenth Sunday after Pentecost September 4, 2022

PRELUDE

WELCOME

Welcome on this day before Labor Day, often a time to squeeze in another good weekend of summer. In this season after Pentecost, Jesus prepares the disciples and us for what is entailed in the labor of serving our God. The back to school question 'What will you be when you grow up?' continues to change as we grow into and meet the challenge of serving Christ.

ANNOUNCEMENTS


***HYMN ~ What God Hath Promised**

What God Hath Promised

Annie Johnson Flint, 1919

William Marion Runyan

♩ = 105




1. God hath not prom-ised skies al - ways blue, Flow - er strewn path-ways all our lives through;
 2. God hath not prom-ised we shall not know Toil and temp - ta - tion, trou - ble and woe;
 3. God hath not prom-ised smooth roads and wide, Swift, ea - sy trav - el, need-ing no guide;




God hath not prom - ised sun with - out rain, Joy with - out sor - row, peace with - out pain.
 He hath not told us we shall not bear Man - y a bur - den, man - y a care.
 Nev - er a mount - ain rock - y and steep, Nev - er a riv - er tur - bid and deep.

Refrain



But God hath prom - ised strength for the day, Rest for the la - bor, light for the way,



Grace for the tri - als, help from a - bove, Un - fail - ing sym - pa - thy, un - dy - ing love.

***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.

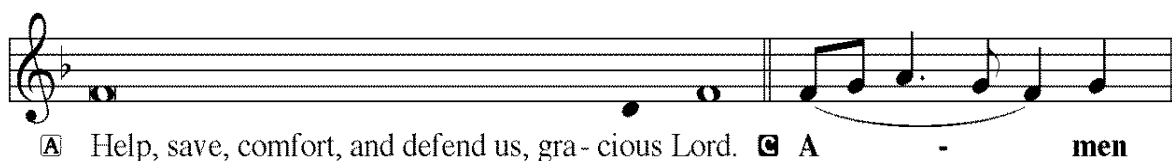
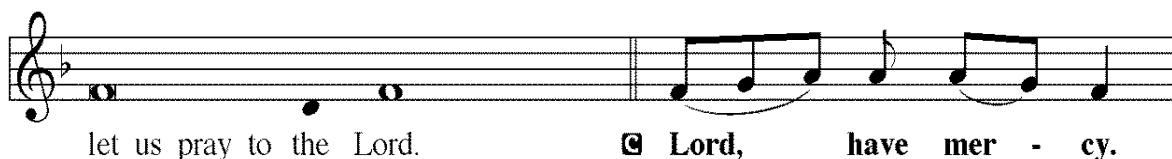
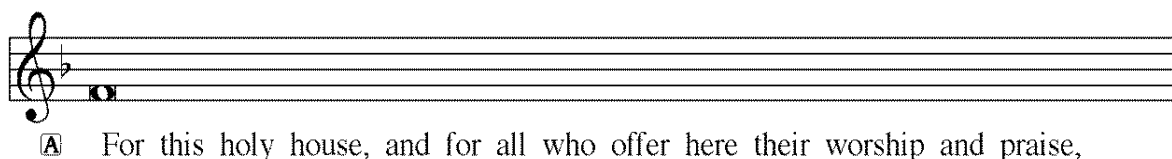
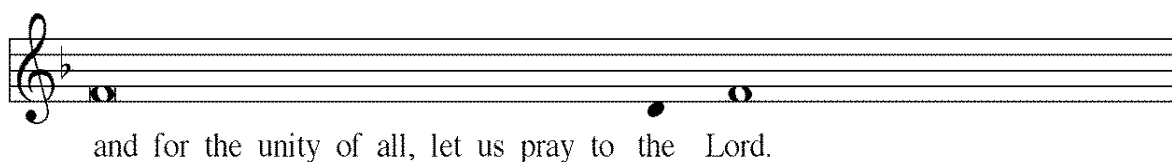
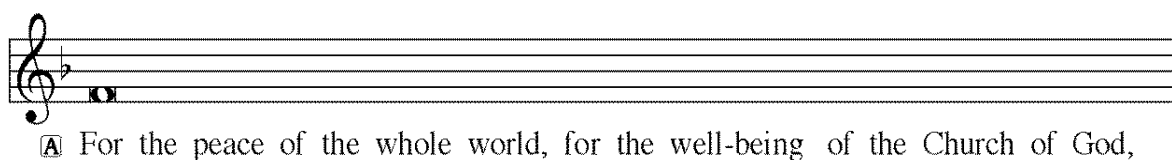
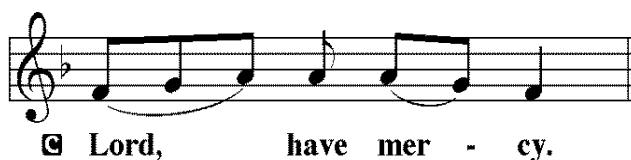
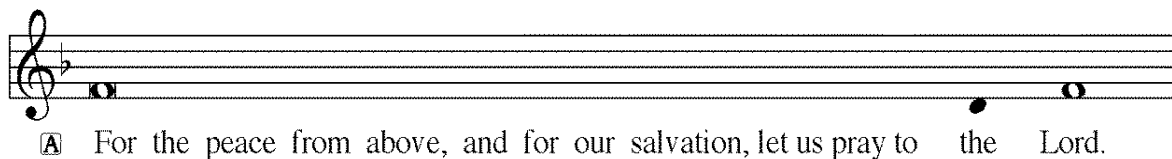
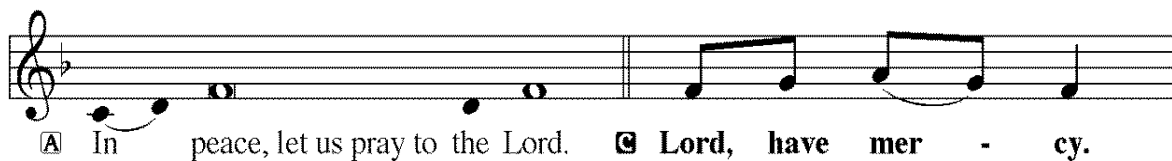
C **Amen**

***GREETING**

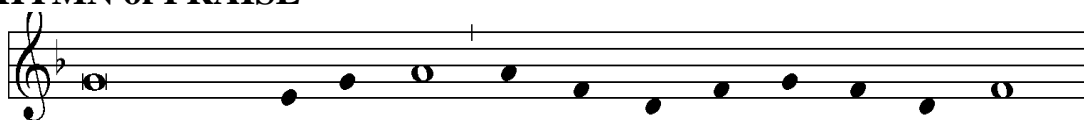
P The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

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,

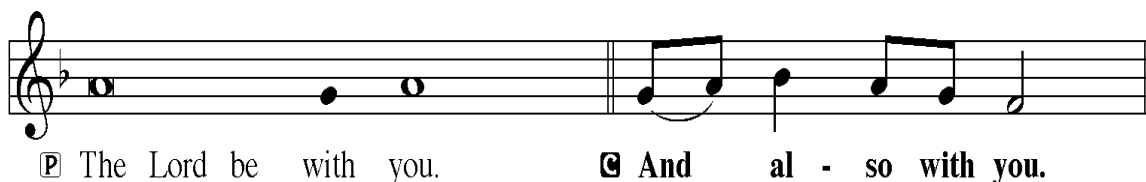


you a - lone are the Most High, Je - sus Christ, with the Ho - ly Spir - it,



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

***PRAYER of the DAY ~ (in unison)**



P Let us pray...

Direct us, O Lord God, in all our doings with your continual help, that in all our works, begun, continued, and ended in you, we may glorify your holy name; and finally, by your mercy, bring us to everlasting life, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.

LESSONS

First Lesson ~ A reading from Deuteronomy 30:15-20

P The word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

*Psalm 1 ~ with response

The psalm is announced, organ plays response 1x, cantor or pastor sings 1x, congregation sings together 1x. As psalm is read, congregation sings response at each R.

*Second Lesson ~ A reading from Philemon 1-21

after the reading

R The word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

***GOSPEL ACCLAMATION**

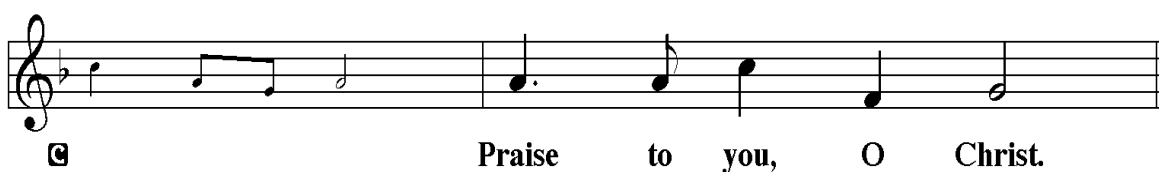


*Gospel Reading ~ P The Holy Gospel according to Luke the 14th chapter:



After the reading

P The Gospel of the Lord



MESSAGE ~ *Labor, Love and Life*

Rev. Ela J. Robertson

***HYMN ~** *Down by the Riverside*

60

DOWN BY THE RIVERSIDE

Spiritual

Gon - na lay down my bur - den Down by the
sword and shield

riv - er - side, Down by the riv - er - side,

Down by the riv - er - side, Gon - na lay down my

bur - den Down by the riv - er - side, Gon - na
sword and shield

Continued on next page

The musical score is written in G major (one sharp) and 4/4 time. It consists of four systems, each with a vocal melody line and a bass accompaniment line. The lyrics are: "stud - y war no more. Ain't gon - na stud - y war no more, Ain't gon - na stud - y war no more, no more." The score includes chord markings (D, G, C) above the vocal line and a final double bar line at the end of the fourth system.

System 1: Chord D. Lyrics: stud - y war no more. _____

System 2: Chord C. Lyrics: Ain't gon - na stud - y war no more, Ain't gon - na

System 3: Chords G and D. Lyrics: stud - y war no more, Ain't gon - na stud - y

System 4: Chord G. Lyrics: war no more. _____

***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 As scattered grains of wheat are gathered together into one bread, so let us
gather our prayers for the church, those in need, and all of God's good creation.

A brief silence.

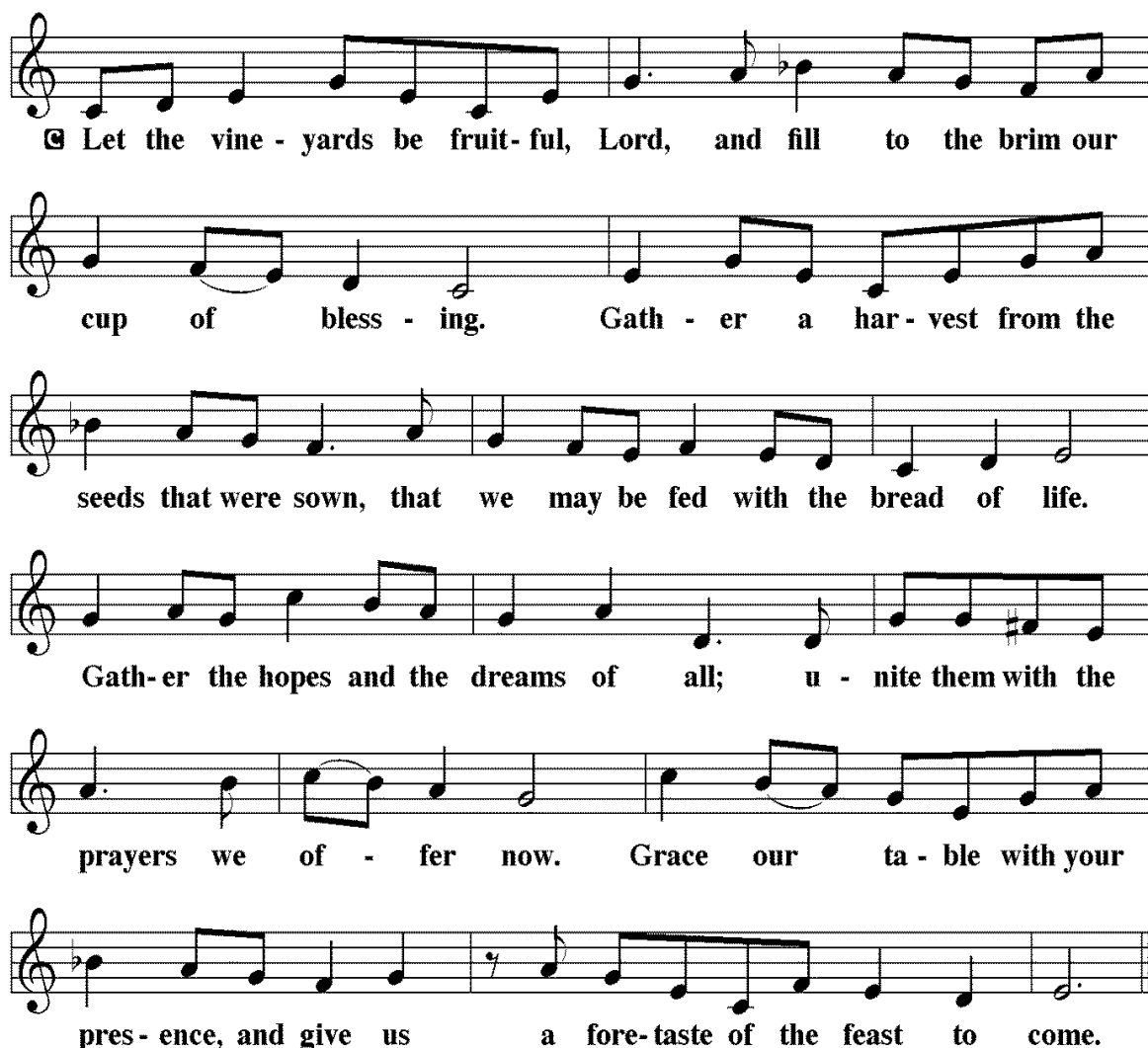
***PEACE**

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.

***OFFERTORY**

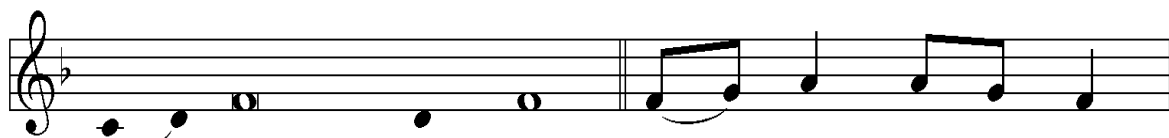


Let the vine - yards be fruit - ful, Lord, and fill to the brim our
cup of bless - ing. Gath - er a har - vest from the
seeds that were sown, that we may be fed with the bread of life.
Gath - er the hopes and the dreams of all; u - nite them with the
prayers we of - fer now. Grace our ta - ble with your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

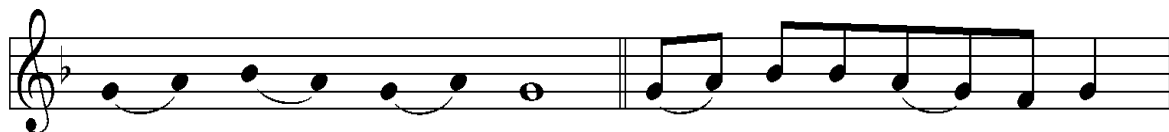
***OFFERTORY PRAYER**

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

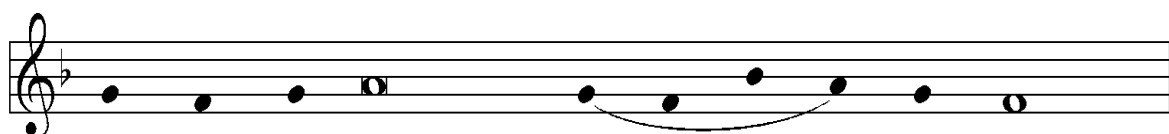
***GREAT THANKSGIVING**



P The Lord be with you. **C** And al - so with you.



P Lift up your hearts. **C** We lift them to the Lord.

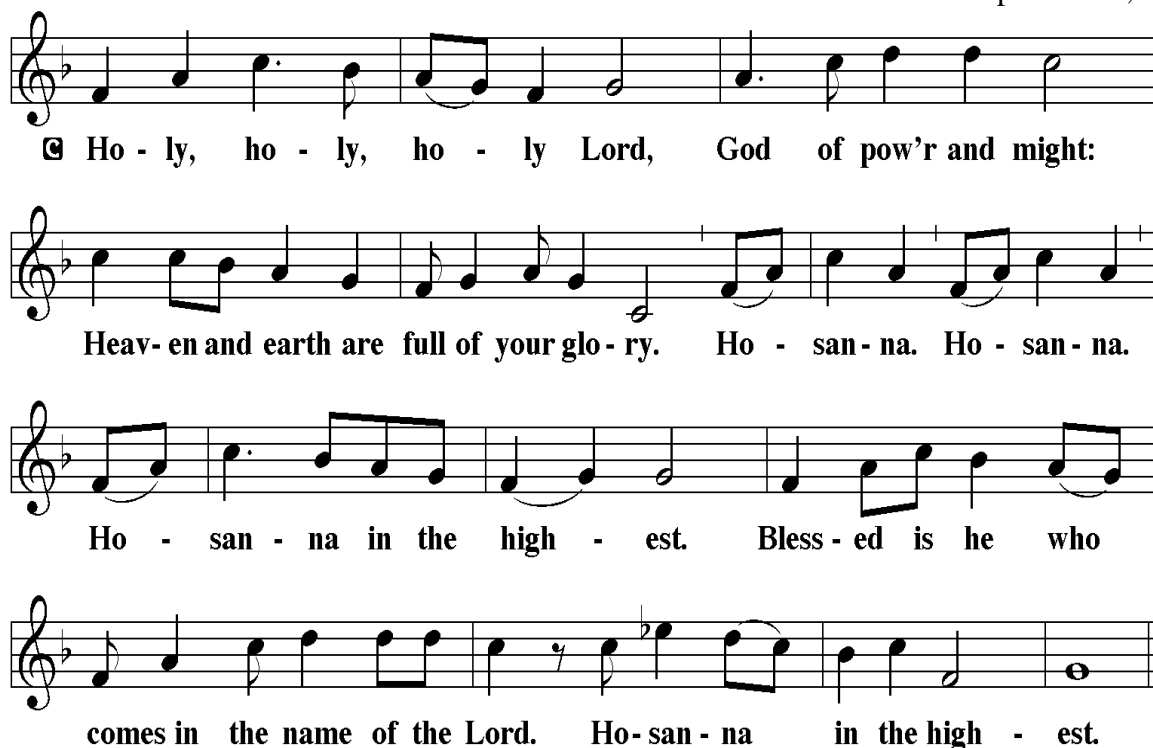


P Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.



C It is right to give him thanks and praise.

***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:

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

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 Communion

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.

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 ~ *O Jesus, I Have Promised*

LBW # 503

503

O Jesus, I Have Promised

1 O Je - sus, I have prom - ised To serve you to the end;
 2 Oh, let me feel you near me; The world is ev - er near.
 3 Oh, let me hear you speak - ing In ac - cents clear and still
 4 O Je - sus, you have prom - ised To all who fol - low you

Re - main for - ev - er near me, My mas - ter and my friend.
 I see the sights that daz - zle, The tempt - ing sounds I hear.
 A - bove the storms of pas - sion, The mur - murs of self - will.
 That where you are in glo - ry Your ser - vant shall be too.

I shall not fear the bat - tle If you are by my side,
 My foes are ev - er near me, A - round me and with - in;
 Now speak to re - as - sure me, To has - ten or con - trol;
 And Je - sus, I have prom - ised To serve you to the end;

Nor wan - der from the path - way If you will be my guide.
 But, Je - sus, then draw near - er To shield my soul from sin.
 Now speak and make me lis - ten, O Guard - ian of my soul.
 Oh, give me grace to fol - low, My mas - ter and my friend.

Text: John E. Bode, 1816-1874, alt.
 Tune: Neu-vermehrtes Gesangbuch, Meiningen, 1693

MUNICH
 76 7 1/2

***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

Today

Greeter: Jane Fultz; **Lay Reader:** Jami Zook

Altar Care: Carol Fultz

Sound: Ed Bilich

Next Sunday, September 11

Greeters: Don and Rosalie Smith; **Lay Reader:** Sandra Metz

Altar Care: Carol Fultz

Sound: Joe Kanagy

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.*

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 ~ Miriam Williamson is at Valley View Rehab recovering from her operation. Visits are welcome. Charles Royer (Greenwood Village, Room 404B for therapy), Fred Rodgers (Father of Steve Rodgers), Elliana Byler, Kyung Sun Yim, (Seulki's mother), Jim and Georgianna Buchanan, Bob Treaster, Andrea Kauffman, Don F. Smith, Samantha Smith, our members ~ Joyce Stuck (Greenwood Village), Betty Harmon (Celebration Villa), Pastor Kramm, Don Wolfe, Carol Yoder (VVH).

ANNOUNCEMENTS

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

After taking a break during July and August, Council will be meeting again this Thursday, September 8 at 6:30pm.

The Sunday school class which meets in the blue room will resume again on Sunday, September 18 following the worship service. Michele Harshbarger will be leasing the weekly sessions. You are invited and encouraged to attend.

St. John's has Meals on Wheels the first 2 weeks in October. Please sign-up in the narthex if you can help provide any desserts. Donations for pies can be given to Sue Lynch or the church office.

There are currently two available altar flower dates ~ October 9 and November 27. If you would like place them in memory or honor/memory of someone, please sign-up in the narthex or contact the church office. The cost is \$40.00.

Divorce Care (DC) and DC4Kids

DC (Divorce Care) for adults and DC4K are support groups that meets weekly for 13 weeks to help adults and children recover from the pain of separation and divorce. Participants experience a warm, caring environment led by people who care and want to help attendees find healing and wholeness in the midst of their circumstances. The next DC and DC4K groups kick off in Mifflin County on Monday, September 12, 2022, in two locations including New Life Church in Burnham and Locust Grove Church in Belleville. For more information or to register at New Life Church call or text 717-250-6852. For information or to

September 4, 2022

register at Locust Grove Church call or text 717-247-4915 or 717-437-4946.
DC4K groups are limited to 8-10 children.

There are still several baby bottles from the Crossroads fundraiser which have not been returned. If you have one, please bring in to the church office by Sunday, September 28. Thank you!

St. John's Safety Concerns/Actions ~ Reminder!

All doors of the church continue to be locked during worship. Following the service, you are asked to please exit through the coded doors or the single door by the coatroom, as they will all lock behind you.

January 1 thru September 1, 2022

Last week's attendance ~ 28 Offering ~ \$1,590.00

St. John's ~ Income \$118,536.22 Expense \$113,485.00
Net Income \$5,051.22

Daycare ~ Income \$236,957.72 Expense \$245,272.41
Net Income -\$8,314.69

(Net income figure is result of ARPA grant received in 2021/22 spending)

God's Loving Promise
By Annie Johnson Flint

*God hath not promised skies always blue,
Flower strewn pathways all our lives through;
God hath not promised sun without rain,
Joy without sorrow, peace without pain.*

*God hath not promised we shall not know
Toil and temptation, trouble and woe;
He hath not told us we shall not bear
Many a burden, Many a care.*

*But God hath promised strength for the day,
Rest for the labor, light for the way;
Grace for the trials, help from above,
Unfailing sympathy, undying love.*