

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



**Fourteenth Sunday after Pentecost
September 11, 2022**

PRELUDE

WELCOME ~ Welcome on this 15th week after Pentecost. This Sunday lands on the exact date 21 years ago that two rogue planes were forced to land on the twin towers in NYC and another was downed in the fields of N. Pennsylvania. 9/11 is the date Christians are reminded to take up the challenge once again of loving our enemies as our self, the challenge of renewing our faith that our Triune God, immortal, invincible and wise, will transform ourselves, our country, and our world. Let us give thanks for life and for God's amazing grace this day.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

*HYMN ~ *Amazing Grace*

LBW # 448

Amazing Grace, How Sweet the Sound 448

1 A - maz - ing grace, how sweet the sound, That
 2 'Twas grace that taught my heart to fear, And
 3 Through man - y dan - gers, toils, and snares I
 4 The Lord has prom - ised good to me; His

saved a wretch like me! I once was lost, but
 grace my fears re-lieved; How pre - cious did that
 have al - read - y come; 'Tis grace has brought me
 Word my hope se-cures; He will my shield and

now am found; Was blind, but now I see.
 grace ap - pear The hour I first be - lieved!
 safe thus far, And grace will lead me home.
 por - tion be As long as life en - dures.

Text: John Newton, 1725-1807
 Tune: W. Walker, Southern Harmony, 1835

NEW BRITAIN
CM

***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**

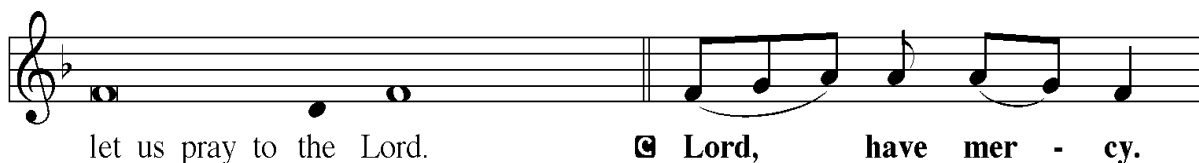
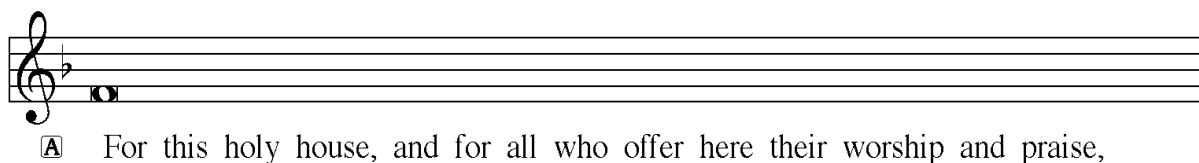
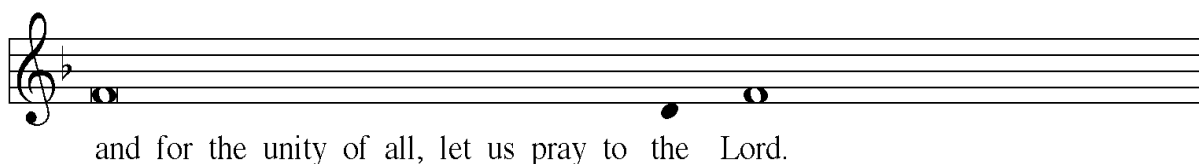
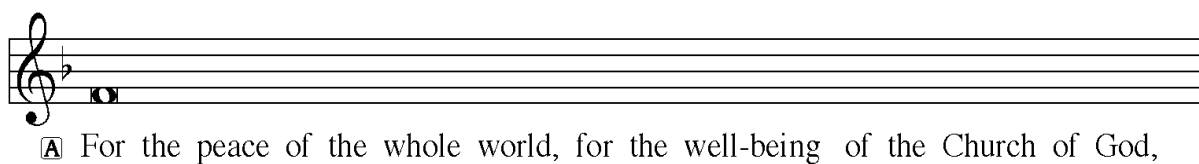
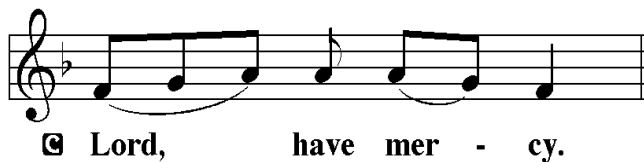
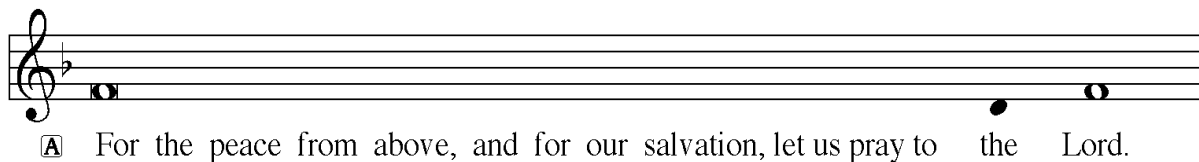
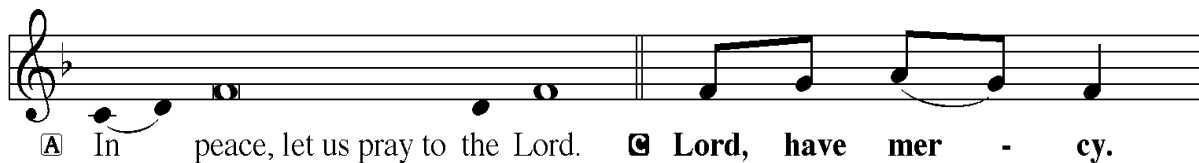
P Almighty God, in his mercy, has given his Son to die for us and, for his sake, forgives us all our sins. As a called and ordained minister of the Church of Christ, and by his authority, I therefore declare to you the entire forgiveness of all your sins, in the name of the Father, and of the + Son,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

C **Amen**

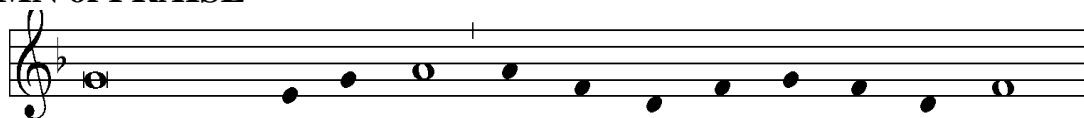
P The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

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...

O God, overflowing with mercy and compassion, you lead back to yourself all those who go astray. Preserve your people in your loving care, that we may reject whatever is contrary to you and may follow all things that sustain our life in your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.

LESSONS

First Lesson ~ A reading from Exodus 32:7-14

after the reading

R The word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

Psalm 51:1-10 ~ *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 Timothy 1:12-17

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 15th chapter.

Glo - ry to you, O Lord.

The Gospel is read

After the reading

P The Gospel of the Lord

Praise to you, O Christ.

MESSAGE ~ *What Do We Have to Lose?*

Rev. Ela J. Robertson

HYMN ~ *Immortal, Invisible, God Only Wise* (1Timothy 1:17) LBW # 526

Immortal, Invisible, God Only Wise 526

1 Im - mor - tal, in - vis - i - ble, God on - ly wise, In
 2 Un - rest - ing, un - hast - ing, and si - lent as light, Nor
 3 To all, life thou giv - est, to both great and small; In
 4 Thou reign - est in glo - ry; thou dwell - est in light; Thine

light in - ac - ces - si - ble hid from our eyes, Most
 want - ing, nor wast - ing, thou rul - est in might; Thy
 all life thou liv - est, the true life of all; We
 an - gels a - dore thee, all veil - ing their sight; All

bles - ed, most glo - rious, the An - cient of Days, Al -
 jus - tice like moun - tains high soar - ing a - bove Thy
 blos - som and flour - ish like leaves on the tree, And
 laud we would ren - der; oh, help us to see 'Tis

might - y, vic - to - rious, thy great name we praise!
 clouds which are foun - tains of good - ness and love.
 with - er and per - ish, but naught chang - eth thee.
 on - ly the splen - dor of light hid - eth thee!

***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**

THE PEACE

P: The peace of the Lord be with you always.

C: And also with you.

OFFERING PRAYER *Luke 15:1–10*

As a shepherd searches for a lost sheep, as a woman searches for a lost coin, God seeks us out to save us. With gratitude and joy, let us offer our lives to the Lord.

OFFERING ~ You may leave your gifts in one of the offering plates at the end of the front and back pews.

OFFERTORY



Cre-ate in me a clean heart, O God, and re-new a right spir -
it with-in me. Cast me not a-way from your pres-ence, and take
not your Ho - ly Spir - it from me. Re-store to me the
joy of your sal-va - tion, and up-hold me with your free Spir - it.

*PRAYERS of the PEOPLE ~

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.

*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

*THE BLESSING

P The Lord bless you and keep you.

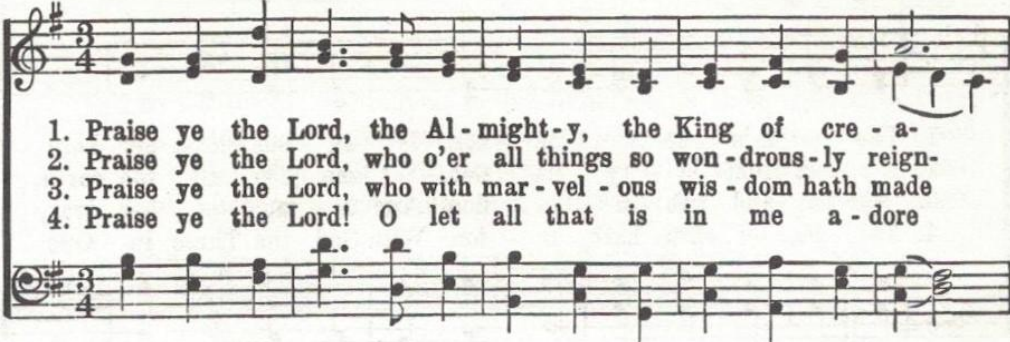
The Lord make his face shine on you and be gracious to you.

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

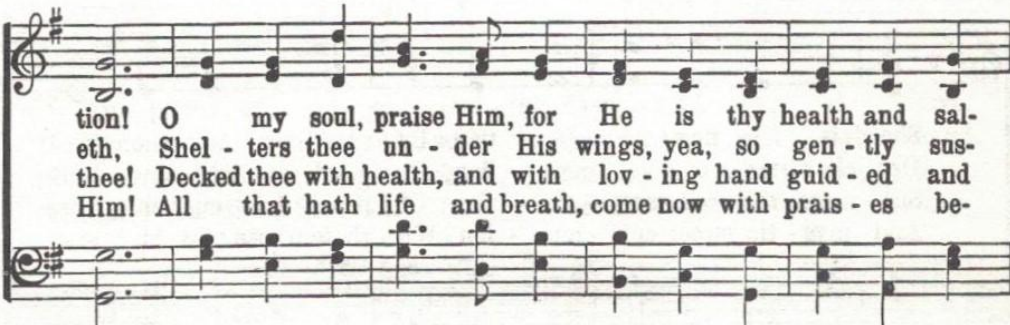
C Amen

*HYMN ~ Praise Ye the Lord, the Almighty

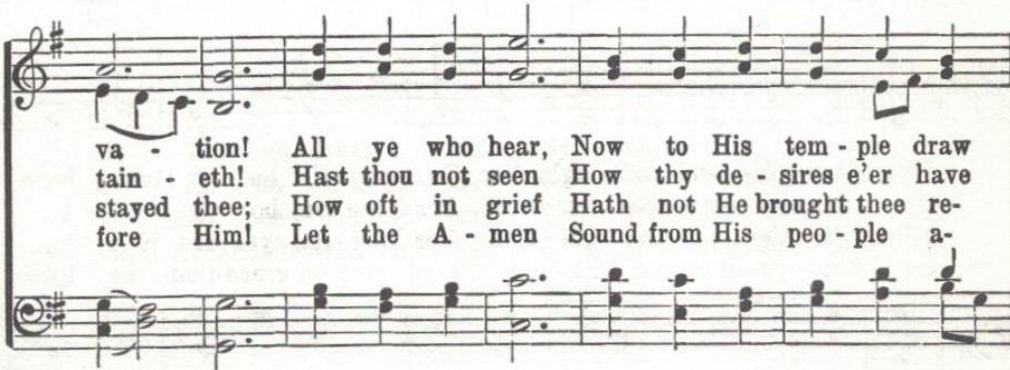
224 Praise Ye the Lord, the Almighty

JOACHIM NEANDER
Trans. by CATHERINE WINKWORTH"Stralsund Gesangbuch"
Arr. in "Praxis Pietatis Melica"


1. Praise ye the Lord, the Al-might-y, the King of cre-a-
 2. Praise ye the Lord, who o'er all things so won-drous-ly reign-
 3. Praise ye the Lord, who with mar-vel-ous wis-dom hath made
 4. Praise ye the Lord! O let all that is in me a-dore



tion! O my soul, praise Him, for He is thy health and sal-
 eth, Shel-ters thee un-der His wings, yea, so gen-tly sus-
 thee! Decked thee with health, and with lov-ing hand guid-ed and
 Him! All that hath life and breath, come now with prais-es be-



va-tion! All ye who hear, Now to His tem-ple draw
 tain-eth! Hast thou not seen How thy de-sires e'er have
 stayed thee; How oft in grief Hath not He brought thee re-
 fore Him! Let the A-men Sound from His peo-ple a-



near; Join me in glad ad-o-ra-tion!
 been Grant-ed in what He or-dain-eth?
 lief, Spread-ing His wings for to shade thee!
 gain: Glad-ly for aye we a-dore Him. A-MEN.

***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

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

Sound: Joe Kanagy

Next Sunday, September 18

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

Altar Care: Carol Fultz

Sound: Jay 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 Reba Harmon in loving memory of Jim Harmon.

FROM the PASTOR

Valley View has had four recent cases of Covid in their community. Please exercise caution when/if you visit.

Reminder - all are invited to the installation of Rev. Craig Miller as our new bishop on Saturday, September 17 at 2:00p.m.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

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

The Knotters will meet again this Thursday at 9:30am in the library. Blanket Sunday is October 2. Envelopes to support this mission will be included in the September 28 bulletin.

The Sunday school class which meets in the blue room will resume next Sunday, September 18 following the worship service. Michele Harshbarger and Ed Bilich are leading the weekly sessions which will explore a few of Jesus' parables and why He used storytelling to teach spiritual truth. You are invited and encouraged to attend.

St. John's has Meals on Wheels October 4, 6, 11 and 13. There is a sign-up in the narthex for desserts, along with monetary donations to purchase pies. Money can be given to Sue Lynch, or dropped off at the church office.

Tuesday, October 4 ~ 5 9
x12 pans of Apple Crisp

Thursday, October 6 ~ 5 dozen cookies (any kind)

Tuesday, October 11 ~ 5 Angel Food Cakes
(Make your own, or purchase homemade from WHS or Peight's)

Thursday, October 13 ~ Donations to purchase pies
(Please give to Sue Lynch or drop off at the church office)

We are in need of **substitute drivers**, who are willing to help with the meal delivery when the regularly scheduled drivers are not available. If you have any questions or can help in this way, please contact Sue Lynch (935-2013). Thank you!

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.

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 ~ 23 Offering ~ \$1,820.00

St. John's ~ Income \$121,038.17 Expense \$115,545.01
Net Income \$5,493.16

Daycare ~ Income \$240,044.17 Expense \$244,293.88
Net Income -\$4,249.71

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