

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



**Sixteenth Sunday after Pentecost
September 25, 2022**

PRELUDE

WELCOME

Welcome on this Sunday after the Equinox days become shorter, and we ebb into fall. As we had hoped Lisa Griffith is here to sing the assurance that Christ lives throughout the darkness and the light.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

439 **What a Friend We Have in Jesus**

1 What a friend we have in Je - sus, All our sins and griefs to bear!
 2 Have we tri - als and temp - ta - tions? Is there trou - ble an - y - where?
 3 Are we weak and heav - y - lad - en, Cum - bered with a load of care?

What a priv - i - lege to car - ry Ev - 'ry-thing to God in prayer!
 We should nev - er be dis - cour - aged— Take it to the Lord in prayer.
 Pre - cious Sav - ior, still our ref - uge— Take it to the Lord in prayer.

Oh, what peace we of - ten for - feit; Oh, what need - less pain we bear—
 Can we find a friend so faith - ful Who will all our sor - rows share?
 Do your friends de - spise, for - sake you? Take it to the Lord in prayer.

All be - cause we do not car - ry Ev - 'ry-thing to God in prayer!
 Je - sus knows our ev - 'ry weak - ness— Take it to the Lord in prayer.
 In his arms he'll take and shield you; You will find a so - lace there.

Text: Joseph Scriven, 1820-1886
Tune: Charles C. Converse, 1832-1918

CONVERSE
 87 87 D

***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**

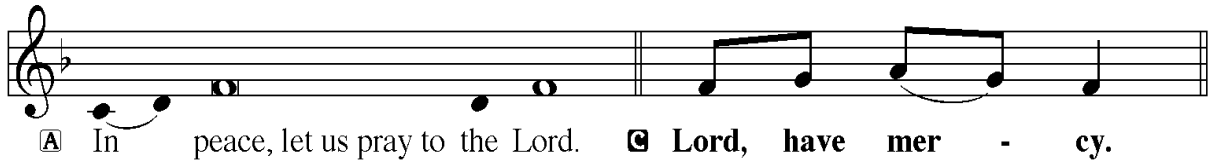
P Almighty God, in his mercy, has given his Son to die for us and, for his sake, forgives us all our sins. As a called and ordained minister of the Church of Christ, and by his authority, I therefore declare to you the entire forgiveness of all your sins, in the name of the Father, and of the + Son,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

C **Amen**

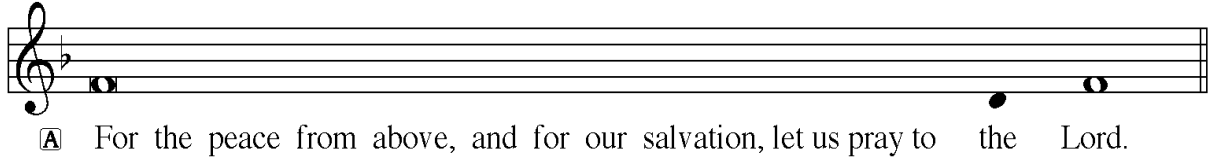
P The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

C **And also with you.**

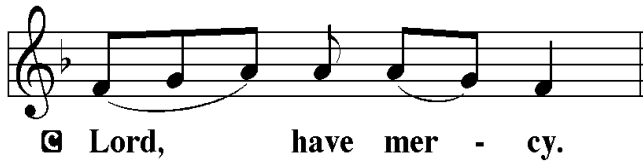
***KYRIE**



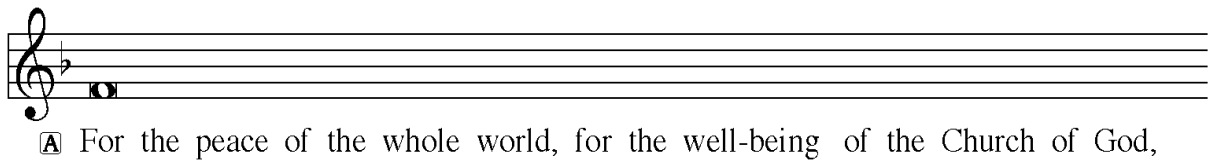
[A] In peace, let us pray to the Lord. [C] Lord, have mer - cy.



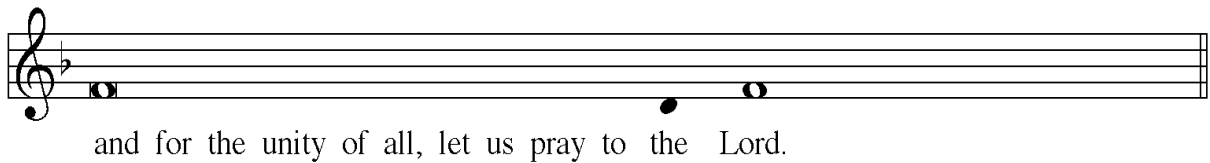
[A] For the peace from above, and for our salvation, let us pray to the Lord.



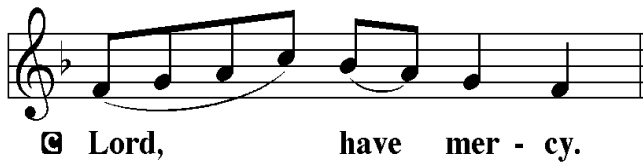
[C] Lord, have mer - cy.



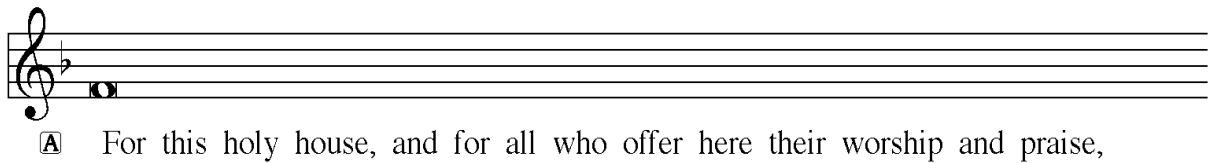
[A] For the peace of the whole world, for the well-being of the Church of God,



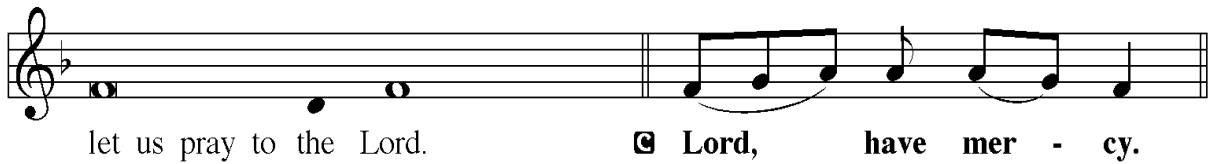
and for the unity of all, let us pray to the Lord.



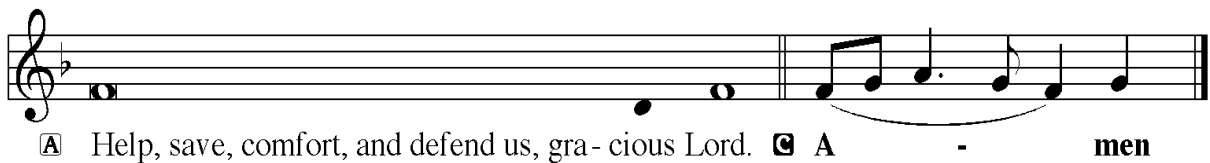
[C] Lord, have mer - cy.



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

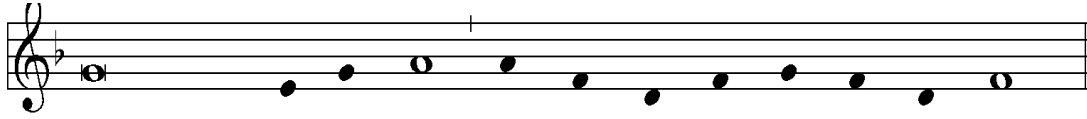


let us pray to the Lord. [C] Lord, have mer - cy.



[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.



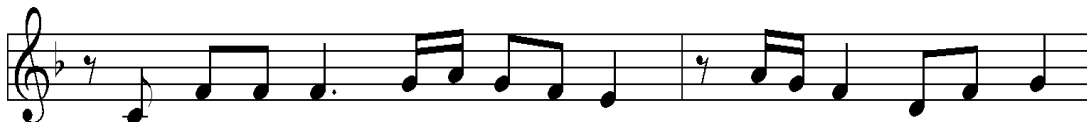
Lord Je - sus Christ, on - ly Son of the Fa - ther, Lord God, Lamb of God:



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)**

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

P Let us pray...

O God, rich in mercy, you look with compassion on this troubled world. Feed us with your grace, and grant us the treasure that comes only from you, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.

LESSONS

First Lesson ~ A reading from Amos 6:1a, 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 1 Timothy 6:6-19

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

SPECIAL MUSIC ~ *Because He Lives* by William Gaither

Lisa Griffith

HYMN ~ *The Church of Christ, in Every Age*

LBW # 433

SOCIETY

433 The Church of Christ, in Every Age

1 The Church of Christ, in ev - 'ry age Be - set by
 2 A - cross the world, a - cross the street, The vic - tims
 3 Then let the ser - vant Church a - rise, A car - ing
 4 For he a - lone, whose blood was shed, Can cure the

change, but Spir - it - led, Must claim and test its
 of in - jus - tice cry For shel - ter and for
 Church that longs to be A part - ner in Christ's
 fe - ver in our blood, And teach us how to

her - i - tage And keep on ris - ing from the dead.
 bread to eat, And nev - er live be - fore they die.
 sac - ri - fice, And clothed in Christ's hu - man - i - ty.
 share our bread And feed the starv - ing mul - ti - tude.

- 5 We have no mission but to serve
 In full obedience to our Lord;
 To care for all, without reserve,
 And spread his liberating Word.

***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 ~ 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

***NAVAHO BLESSING**

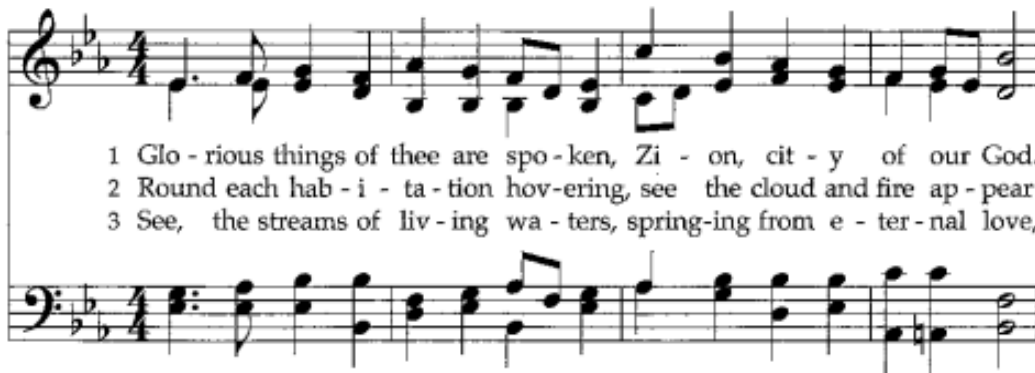
Beauty above you, Beauty below you
Beauty before you, Beauty behind you
Beauty around you, Beauty within you
Beauty a-a-a —always.

Peaceful above us, Peaceful below us
Peaceful before us, Peaceful behind us
Peaceful around us, Peaceful within us
Peaceful a-a-a —always.

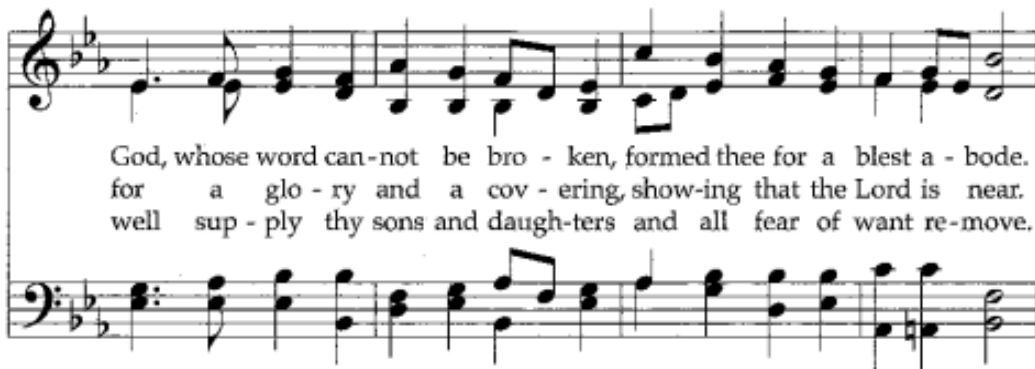
Healing above us, Healing below us
Healing before us, Healing behind us
Healing around us, Healing within us
Healing a-a-a —always.

***THE BLESSING**

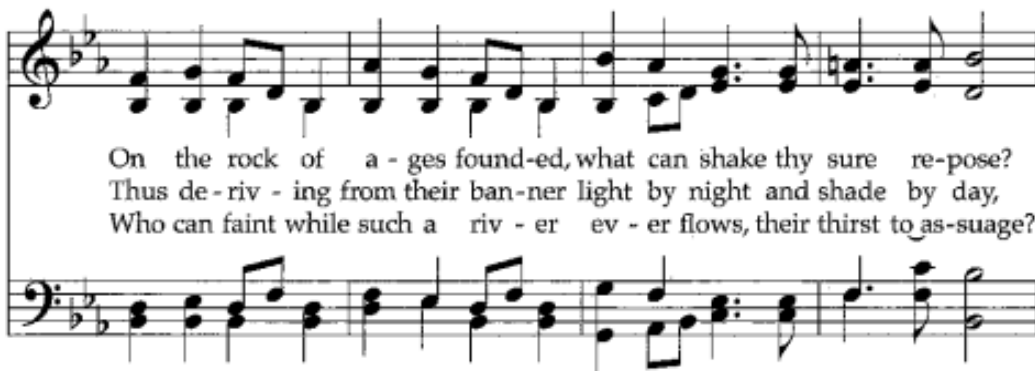
P The Lord bless you and keep you.
The Lord make his face shine on you and be gracious to you.
The Lord look upon you with favor and + give you peace.
C **Amen**

HYMN ~ Glorious Things of Thee Are Spoken*81 Glorious Things of Thee Are Spoken**


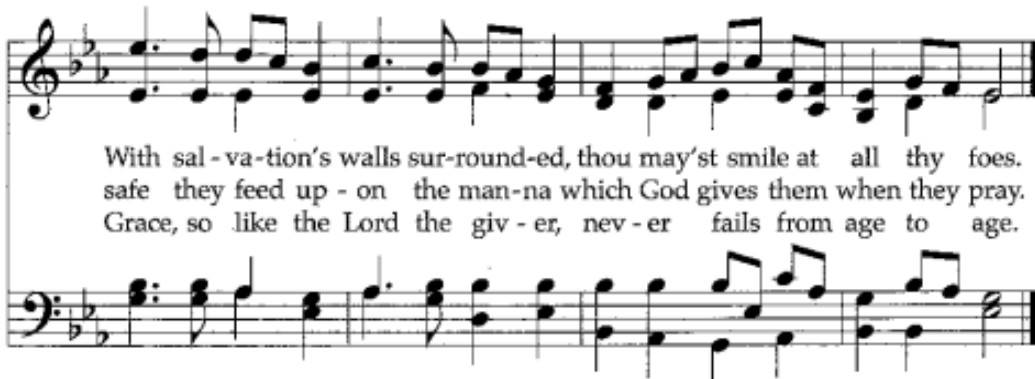
1 Glo - rious things of thee are spo - ken, Zi - on, cit - y of our God.
 2 Round each hab - i - ta - tion hov - ering, see the cloud and fire ap - pear
 3 See, the streams of liv - ing wa - ters, spring - ing from e - ter - nal love,



God, whose word can - not be bro - ken, formed thee for a blest a - bode.
 for a glo - ry and a cov - ering, show - ing that the Lord is near.
 well sup - ply thy sons and daugh - ters and all fear of want re - move.



On the rock of a - ges found - ed, what can shake thy sure re - pose?
 Thus de - riv - ing from their ban - ner light by night and shade by day,
 Who can faint while such a riv - er ev - er flows, their thirst to as - suage?



With sal - va - tion's walls sur - round - ed, thou may'st smile at all thy foes.
 safe they feed up - on the man - na which God gives them when they pray.
 Grace, so like the Lord the giv - er, nev - er fails from age to age.

***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: Chelsea and Merritt Reed; **Lay Reader:** Chelsea Reed

Sound: Jay Byler

Next Sunday, October 3

Greeter: Gwen Hornberger; **Lay Reader:** Gwen Hornberger

Altar Care: Michele Harshbarger and Carol Fultz

Sound: Ed Bilich

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 Gwen Hornberger in memory of her husband, Darlie, and her parents, Glenn and Beverly Bigelow.

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).

FROM the PASTOR

A service for the Terrace Residents will be held Weds October 5 in the chapel - time to be announced. Pastor Ela will offer communion and brief words on songs sung by Lisa Griffith with Patty Loudenslager, piano and cello accompaniment by Pastor Ela.

There have been many cases of Covid in our church community and at Valley View in the last few weeks. We encourage you make decisions that will assure your safety and the safety of others - social distancing and masks may be wise again. Please pray for the health of all.

The church service will be broadcast on our radio station FM 102.3 if you prefer parking lot service.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Next week is Blanket Sunday. A selection of comforts which were lovingly pieced, sewn and knotted by our Knotters, will be displayed in the narthex and sanctuary. **Envelopes are included in this week's bulletin and can be found in the narthex.** Donations to support this mission can be made through Sunday, October 9th.

St. John's has Meals on Wheels in October. The following desserts are still needed.

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

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

Thursday, October 13 ~ Donations to purchase pies

(Please give to Sue Lynch or drop off at the church office)

November 27 is still available to place altar flowers. If interested, please sign-up in the narthex or contact the church office. The cost is \$40.00.

January 1 thru September 21, 2022

Last week's attendance ~ 33 Offering ~ \$1,705.00

St. John's ~ Income \$123,968.17 Expense \$118,947.67

Net Income \$5,020.50

Daycare ~ Income \$251,778.15 Expense \$258,548.25

Net Income -\$6,770.10

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