

**St. John's Lutheran Church
Sixth Sunday after Epiphany
February 12, 2023**



PRELUDE

WELCOME

Welcome on this Sixth Sunday after Epiphany. In the chill of winter we come together in the warmth of community. We come to celebrate Creator, Savior and Holy Spirit playing together in our lives this Super Bowl Sunday and always.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

*GATHERING SONG ~ *I'm So Glad Jesus Lifted Me*

WOV # 673

I'm So Glad Jesus Lifted Me**673**

1 I'm so glad,
 2 Satan had me bound,
 3 When I was in trouble,

Je-sus lift-ed me.

I'm so glad,
 Satan had me bound,
 When I was in trouble,

Je-sus lift-ed me.

I'm so glad,
 Satan had me bound,
 When I was in trouble,

Je - sus lift - ed me,

sing-ing glo - ry, hal - le - lu - jah!

Je - sus lift - ed me.

Chord symbols: G, C, D, D, A⁷, D, G, G, G⁷, C, G⁷, C, A, G, B⁷, Em, A⁷, G, D⁷, G.

Text: African American spiritual
 Music: African American spiritual; arr. *With One Voice*, 1995
 Arr. © 1995 Augsburg Fortress

JESUS LIFTED ME
 irregular

***GREETING**

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

L In the beginning was the Word,
C **and the Word was with God, and the Word was God.**

L In the Word was life,
C **and the life was the light of all people.**

L The Word became flesh and lived among us,
C **and we have seen his glory, full of grace and truth.**

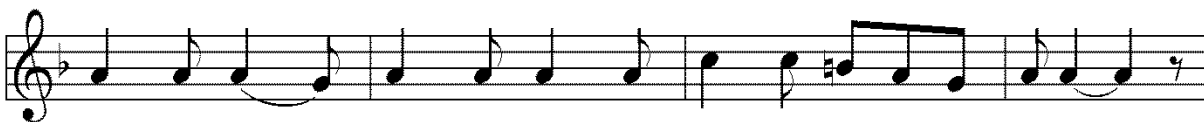
***SCRIPTURE SONG**



☒ Sal- va- tion be- longs to our God and to Christ the Lamb for- ev- er and ev - er.



☐ Great and won- der- ful are your deeds, O God of the u- ni- verse;



just and true are your ways, O Rul - er of all the na- tions.



Who can fail to hon- or you, Lord, and sing the glo- ry of your name?



☒ Sal- va- tion be- longs to our God and to Christ the Lamb for- ev- er and ev - er.



☐☐ For you a - lone are the Ho - ly One. All



na - tions will draw near and wor - ship be - fore you,



for your just and ho - ly works have been re - vealed.



☒ Sal- va- tion be- longs to our God and to Christ the Lamb for- ev- er and ev - er.

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

P The Lord be with you.

C And also with you.

P Let us pray...

O God, strength of all who hope in you, because we are weak mortals we accomplish nothing good without you. Help us to see and understand the things we ought to do, and give us grace and power to do them, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen

THE LESSONS

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

after the reading

R The word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

Psalm 119:1-8 ~ *with response

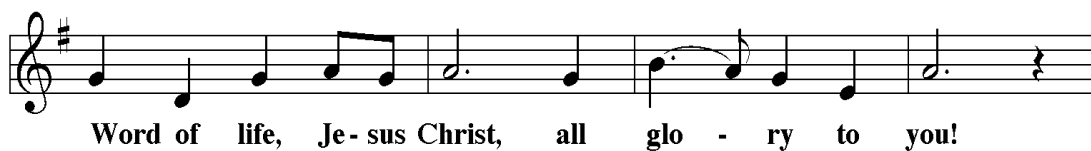
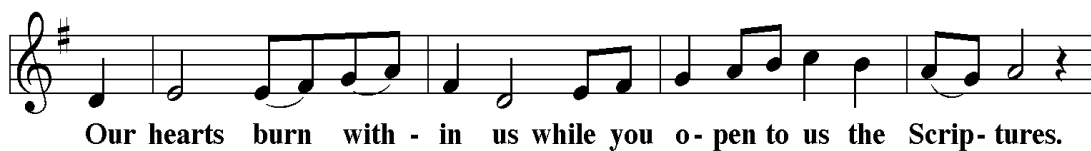
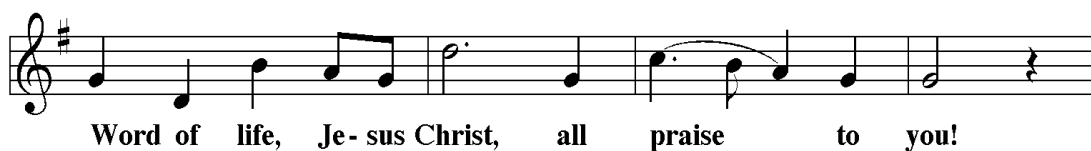
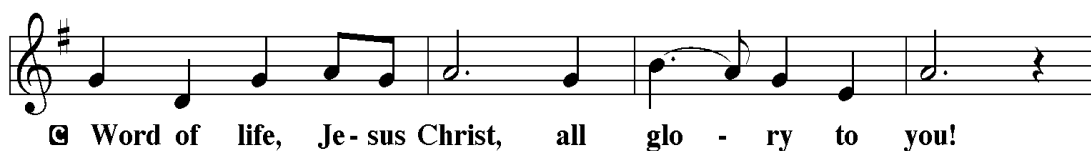
***Second Lesson ~ A reading from 1 Corinthians 3:1-9**

after the reading

R The word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

***GOSPEL ACCLAMATION**



***GOSPEL READING**

P The Holy Gospel according to Matthew, the 5th chapter.

C Glory to you, O Lord.

After the reading

P The Gospel of the Lord.

C Praise to you, O Christ.

MESSAGE

***HYMN ~ Shall We Gather at the River**

WOV #690

Shall We Gather at the River**690**

D A⁷ A

1 Shall we gath - er at the riv - er, where bright an - gel feet have trod,
 2 On the mar - gin of the riv - er, wash - ing up its sil - ver spray,
 3 Ere we reach the shin - ing riv - er, lay we ev - 'ry bur - den down;
 4 Soon we'll reach the shin - ing riv - er, soon our pil - grim - age will cease;

D A A⁷ D

with its crys - tal tide for - ev - er flow - ing by the throne of God?
 we will walk and wor - ship ev - er, all the hap - py gold - en day.
 grace our spir - its will de - liv - er, and pro - vide a robe and crown.
 soon our hap - py hearts will quiv - er with the mel - o - dy of peace.

Refrain
G D A⁷ D

Yes, we'll gath - er at the riv - er, the beau - ti - ful, the beau - ti - ful riv - er;

G D A A⁷ D

gath - er with the saints at the riv - er that flows by the throne of God.

***RESPONSE to the WORD**

P In Christ, you have heard the word of truth, the gospel of your salvation.

**C We believe in him and are marked with the seal
of the promised Holy Spirit.**

P Living together in trust and hope, we confess our faith.

**C 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

P Build yourselves up on your most holy faith;

C pray in the Holy Spirit.

P Keep yourselves in the love of God;

C look forward to the mercy of our Lord Jesus Christ.

P If anyone is in Christ, there is a new creation:

**C Everything old has passed away;
behold, everything has become new!**

P God has given us the ministry of reconciliation.

Therefore, let us be reconciled to God and to one another.

Silence for reflection and self-examination.

P Gracious God,

**C have mercy on us. In your compassion forgive us our sins,
known and unknown, things done and left undone.**

**Uphold us by your Spirit so that we may live and serve you
in newness of life, to the honor and glory of your holy name;
through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen**

***THE PEACE**

P Sisters and brothers, rejoice. Mend your ways, encourage one another, agree with one another, live in 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**

The musical score is written for a single melodic line in G major (one sharp). It consists of six staves of music, each with a corresponding line of lyrics. The lyrics are in English and describe the offering of praise and thanksgiving to God. The music is written in a simple, accessible style, suitable for a church service.

Glo - ry to you, God, for yours is the earth;
 yours is the prom - ise, the bless - ing, the birth.
 Ours the re - joic - ing for Word giv - en frame;
 ours the thanks - giv - ing to your ho - ly name.
 Ours be the tell - ing of deeds great - ly done;
 yours be the glo - ry, O God, yours a - lone.

***OFFERTORY PRAYER**

P Let us pray.

P Merciful God,

C **in the mystery of the Word made flesh, you embrace our lives with your great love for humanity. With joy and gladness we ask that these gifts may be for many a sign of that love, and that we may continue to share in your divine life, through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen**

PRAYERS of the PEOPLE ~ *Found in Celebrate

P Called together to follow Jesus, we pray for the church, the world, and all in need.

A brief silence.

***LORD's PRAYER**

P Let us pray with confidence in the words our Savior gave us:

C **Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your name, your kingdom come, your will be done, on earth as in heaven. Give us today our daily bread. Forgive us our sins as we forgive those who sin against us. Save us from the time of trial and deliver us from evil. For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours, now and forever. Amen**

***THE BLESSING**

P Almighty God, Father, + Son, and Holy Spirit, bless you now and forever.

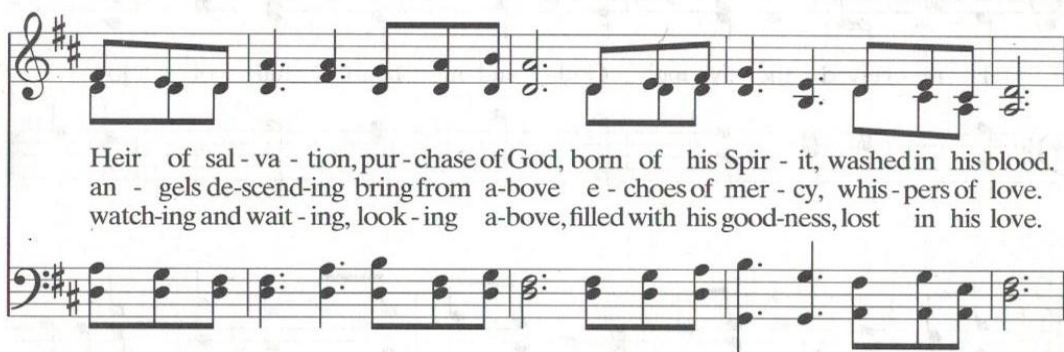
C **Amen**

***SENDING SONG ~ Blessed Assurance**

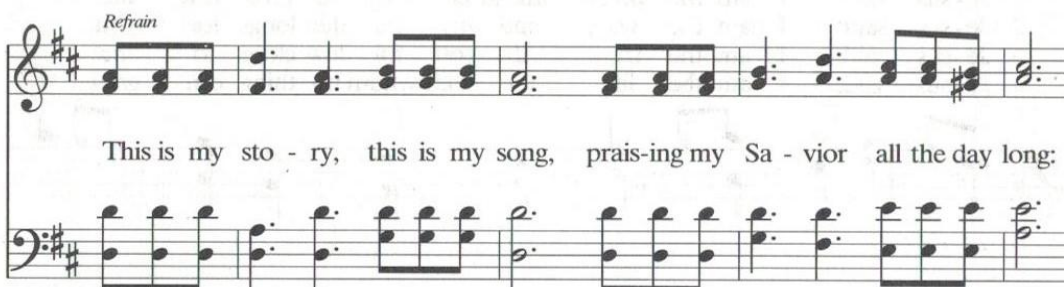
WOV # 699

Blessed Assurance**699**

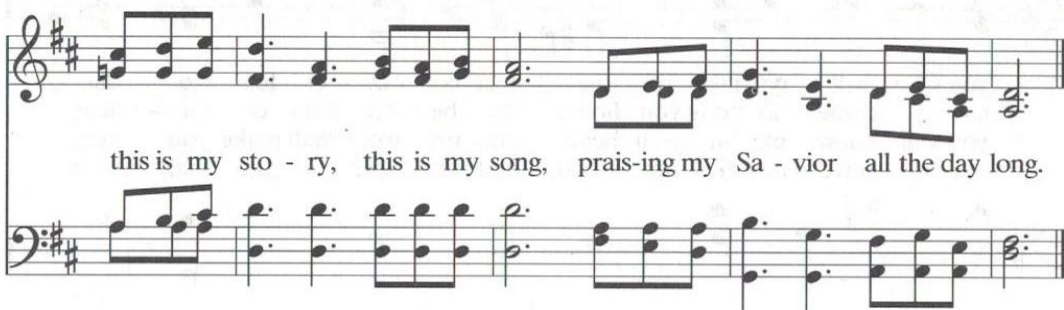

1 Bless-ed as-sur-ance, Je-sus is mine! Oh, what a fore-taste of glo-ry di-vine!
 2 Per-fect sub-mis-sion, per-fect de-light, vi-sions of rap-ture now burst on my sight;
 3 Per-fect sub-mis-sion, all is at rest; I in my Sa-vior am hap-py and blest,



Heir of sal-va-tion, pur-chase of God, born of his Spir-it, washed in his blood.
 an-gels de-scend-ing bring from a-bove e-choes of mer-cy, whis-pers of love.
 watch-ing and wait-ing, look-ing a-bove, filled with his good-ness, lost in his love.



Refrain
 This is my sto-ry, this is my song, prais-ing my Sa-vior all the day long:



this is my sto-ry, this is my song, prais-ing my Sa-vior all the day long.

***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 Yoo

Today

Altar Care: Michele Harshbarger; **Flower Delivery:** Carol Fultz

Greeters: Jim and Georgianna Buchanan; **Lay Reader:** Jim Buchanan

Sound: Joe Kanagy

Next Sunday, February 19

Altar Care: Michele Harshbarger; **Flower Delivery:** Carol Fultz

Greeters: Mike and Michele Harshbarger; **Lay Reader:** Mike Harshbarger

Sound: Jay Byler

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 are given to the Glory of God by
Jami Zook and Mike Boring in honor of
their children and grandchildren.

Please remember in prayer ~ Charles Royer recovering from hip surgery at William Penn. He appreciates visitors. Don F. Smith (now in VV rehab), Anne Peachey, Desa Keiser, Elliana Byler, Kyung Sun Yim, Bob Treaster, Samantha Smith, our members ~ Joyce Stuck (Greenwood Village), Betty Harmon (Celebration Villa) and Don Wolfe (VVH). Monday's Earthquake victims in Turkey and Syria.

FROM the PASTOR

We thank Diane Shetler for substituting as our organist/pianist these last few weeks. It's been a blessing to have her.

St. Johns and West Kish have been approved to jointly offer Seulki Yoo a contract as an 'R-1' Religious Worker. Paperwork for Seulki's R-1 visa is being approved this week. After months of preparation, we thank the work of the Holy Spirit for bringing this about before the time we had anticipated! We welcome Susie back as our Music Director!

The music and worship committee met Monday Feb 6 with the addition of two new members - Seulki Yoo and Rosemary Meyer to plan Lenten and Holy Week Services and possible future involvement of Susi with grandchildren in the church.

We know committee meetings often happen last minute when people can get together but if possible, please be sure to give regular committee meeting dates to Kelly so they may be posted for the congregation.

Lisa Griffith will be offering special music on Feb 12 and for our Ash Wednesday service Feb 22. Thank you, Lisa! Ash Wednesday prayer vigil will be held at West Kish from 7:30 AM to 9PM. You may sign up for a time to pray or just drop in to keep vigil during the day.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

The congregational meeting is scheduled for Sunday, February 26 following worship. Year-end reports and other pertinent information is available in member mailboxes. Any envelopes still remaining will be mailed tomorrow.

Lent begins on Ash Wednesday, February 22. The church is providing the following devotionals ~ *In View of God's Mercy* and *The Joy of Salvation*. They are available in the narthex. Please contact the office if you would like to have one mailed to you.

St. John's has Meals on Wheels this week and next. The following desserts are still needed. Please sign-up in the narthex if you can help provide any.

Thursday, February 16 ~ **1 Angel food cake** (homemade or purchased locally)

Tuesday, February 21 ~ **5 dozen cookies**

Thursday, February 23 ~ **money to purchase pies**
(give to Sue Lynch or church office)

Please be sure to have your dessert at the Community Hall by 9:00am the day it is needed. Thank you!!!

The church is covering the cost for any weeks the flowers are not sponsored, and **there are still twelve weeks available**. Sign-ups can be found in the narthex. **Please remember to notate** whether you would like to keep the flowers or have them delivered. Currently, the cost remains at \$40.00.

Committee sign-up sheets will remain in the narthex through the end of this month. Please prayerfully consider serving. There are several no one has signed up to help serve on.

FEBRUARY 19, 2023: CAMP MOUNT LUTHER SUNDAY

The Upper Susquehanna Synod Council has designated Transfiguration Sunday each year as “Mount Luther Sunday” to help promote outdoor ministries in the synod. Members of USS congregations are encouraged to celebrate outdoor ministries on February 19, 2023. Mount Luther is an extension of our ministry together and we hope all congregations will join in celebrating outdoor ministries by offering financial support, keeping the camp staff in prayer, and by participating in the numerous events and activities this ministry offers. Ideas to celebrate Camp Sunday are here: <https://www.campmountluther.org/wordpress/wp-content/uploads/2022/12/2023-Mount-Luther-Sunday-Flyer.pdf> For a bulletin insert to use that day, click here: https://www.campmountluther.org/wordpress/wp-content/uploads/2022/12/General-Bulletin-Insert-2023_v2.pdf

January 1 thru February 9, 2023

Last week's attendance ~ No count taken Offering ~ \$2,125.00

St. John's ~ Income \$26,749.69 Expense \$23,181.00
Net Income \$3,568.69

Daycare ~ Income \$50,599.62 Expense \$46,695.48
Net Income \$3,904.14