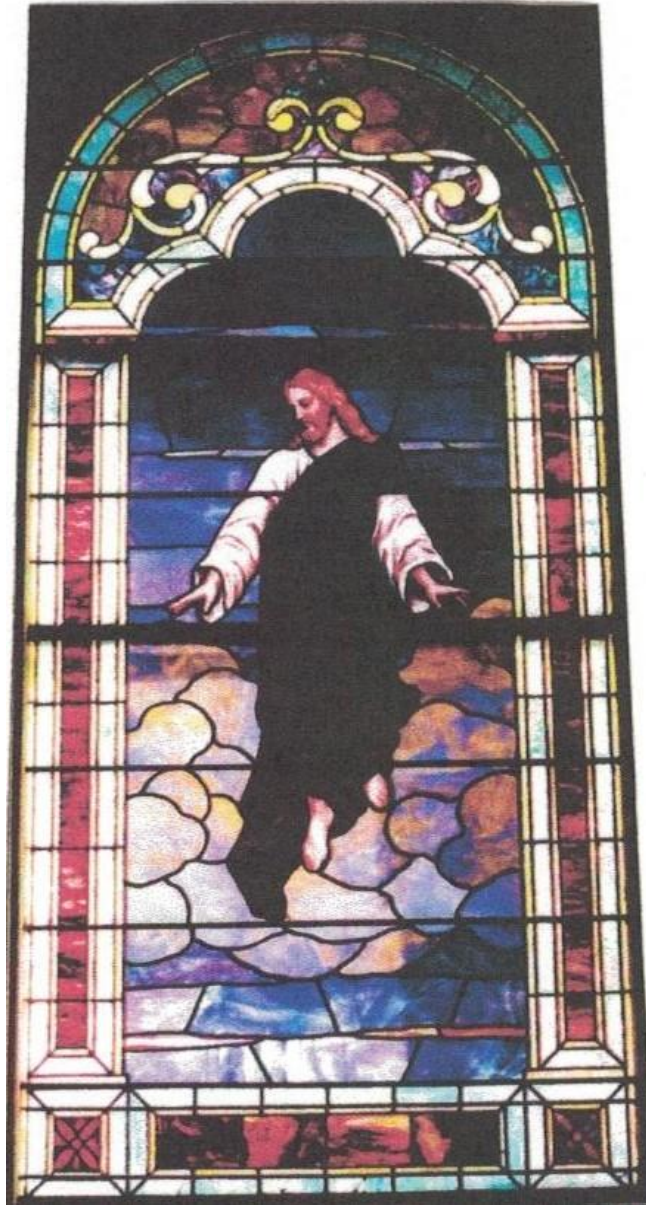


**St. John's Lutheran Church
Belleville, PA**



The Ascension

Stained glass window located at the back of our sanctuary

Seventh Sunday of Easter

May 21, 2023

**PRELUDE
WELCOME
ANNOUNCEMENTS**

***HYMN ~ A Hymn of Glory Let Us Sing! Verses 1-4 and 7 LBW # 157**

157

A Hymn of Glory Let Us Sing!

1 A hymn of glo - ry let us sing! New hymns through-out the
 2 The ho - ly ap - os - tol - ic band Up - on the Mount of
 3 To whom . . shin - ing an - gels cry, "Why stand and gaze up-
 4 "You see him now, as - cend - ing high Up to the por - tals

world shall ring: Al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia!
 Ol - ives stand. Al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia!
 on the sky?" Al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia!
 of the sky." Al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia!

Christ, by a road be - fore un - trod, As - cends un - to
 And with his faith - ful fol - l'wers see Their Lord as - cend
 "This is the Sav - ior!" Thus they say, "This is his glo -
 "Here - af - ter Je - sus you shall see Re - turn - ing in

the throne of God. Al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia!
 in maj - es - ty. Al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia!
 rious tri - umph day!" Al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia!
 great maj - es - ty." Al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia!

Continued on next page



- 5 O Lord, our homeward pathway bend,
That our unwearied hearts ascend.
Alleluia! Alleluia!
Where, seated on your Father's throne,
You reign as King of kings alone.
Alleluia! Alleluia!
Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!
- 6 Give us your joy on earth, O Lord,
In heav'n to be our great reward.
Alleluia! Alleluia!
When throned with you forever, we
Shall praise your name eternally.
Alleluia! Alleluia!
Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!
- 7 O risen Christ, ascended Lord,
All praise to you let earth accord:
Alleluia! Alleluia!
You are, while endless ages run,
With Father and with Spirit one.
Alleluia! Alleluia!
Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!

***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,

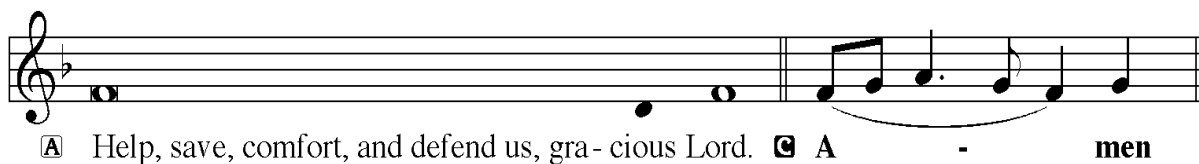
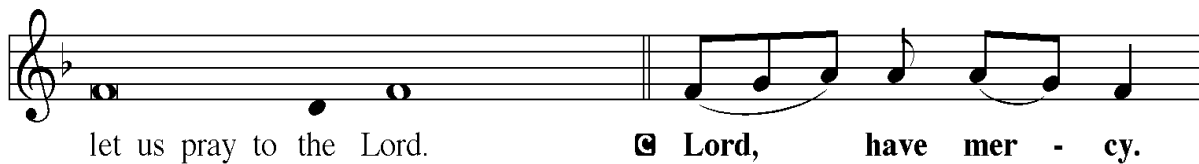
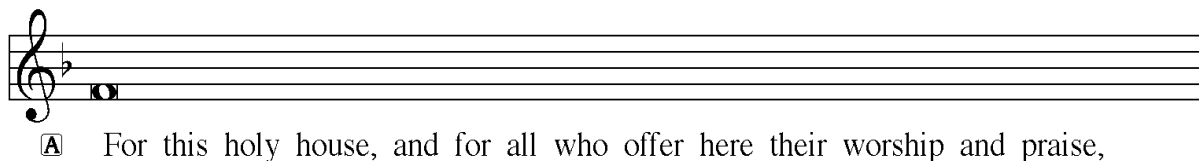
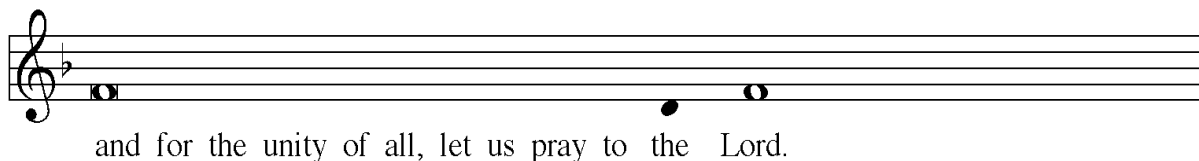
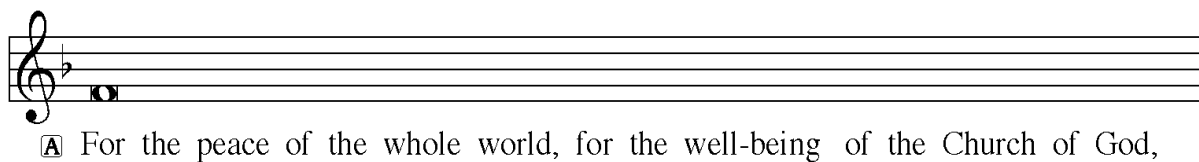
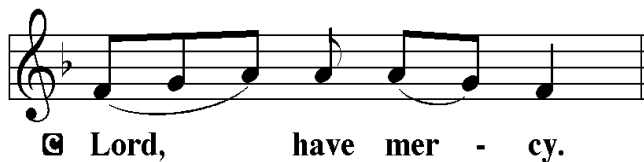
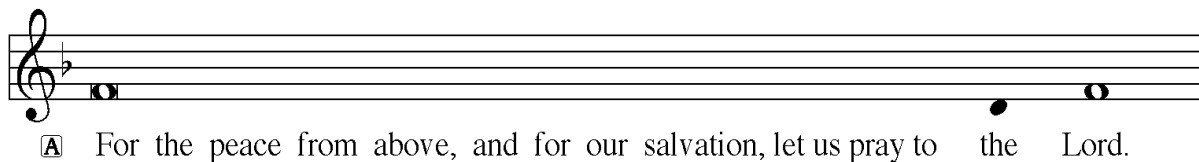
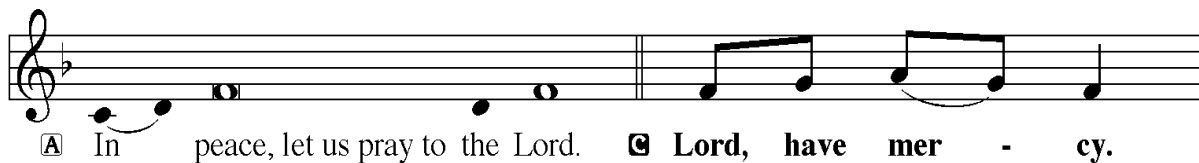
C **we confess that we are in bondage to sin and cannot free ourselves. We have sinned against you in thought, word, and deed, by what we have done and by what we have left undone. We have not loved you with our whole heart; we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. For the sake of your Son, Jesus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

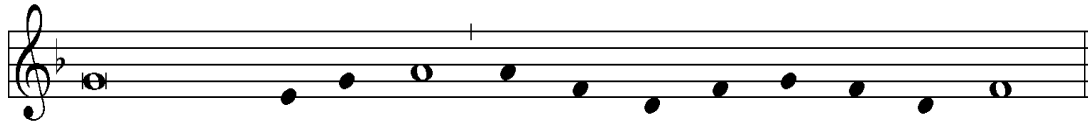
P Almighty God, in his mercy, has given his Son to die for us and, for his sake, forgives us all our sins. As a called and ordained minister of the Church of Christ, and by his authority, I therefore declare to you the entire forgiveness of all your sins, in the name of the Father, and of the + Son,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

Ⓐ Glory to God in the highest, and peace to his peo - ple on earth.



Ⓑ 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 of glory, your Son Jesus Christ suffered for us and ascended to your right hand. Unite us with Christ and each other in suffering and in joy, that all the world may be drawn into your bountiful presence, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

LESSONS

First Lesson ~ A reading from Acts 1:6-14

after the reading

R The word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

Psalm 68:1-10, 32-35 ~ *with response*

Second Lesson ~ A reading from 1 Peter 4:12-14, 5:6-11

after the reading

R The word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

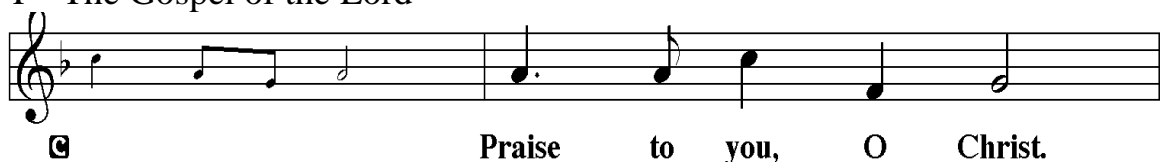
***GOSPEL ACCLAMATION**

Gospel Reading ~ P The Holy Gospel according to John the 17th chapter.



The Gospel is read. After the reading

P The Gospel of the Lord



MESSAGE

HYMN ~ *Take My Life, that I May Be*

LBW # 406

Take My Life, that I May Be

406

1 Take my life, that I may be Con - se - crat - ed, Lord, to thee;
 2 Take my hands and let them move At the im - pulse of thy love;
 3 Take my voice and let me sing Al - ways, on - ly, for my King;
 4 Take my sil - ver and my gold, Not a mite would I with - hold;

Take my mo - ments and my days; Let them flow in cease - less praise.
 Take my feet and let them be Swift and beau - ti - ful for thee.
 Take my lips and let them be Filled with mes - sag - es from thee.
 Take my in - tel - lect, and use Ev - 'ry pow'r as thou shalt choose.

5 Take my will and make it thine;
 It shall be no longer mine.
 Take my heart, it is thine own;
 It shall be thy royal throne.

6 Take my love; my Lord, I pour
 At thy feet its treasure store;
 Take myself, and I will be
 Ever, only, all for 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**

***PRAYERS of the PEOPLE ~ See Celebrate**

P United in the hope and joy of the resurrection, let us pray for the church, the world, and all in need.

A brief silence

P Into your hands, O Lord, we commend all for whom we pray, trusting in your mercy; through your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord.

C Amen

***THE PEACE**

P The peace of the Lord be with you always.

C And also with you.

The peace is shared

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

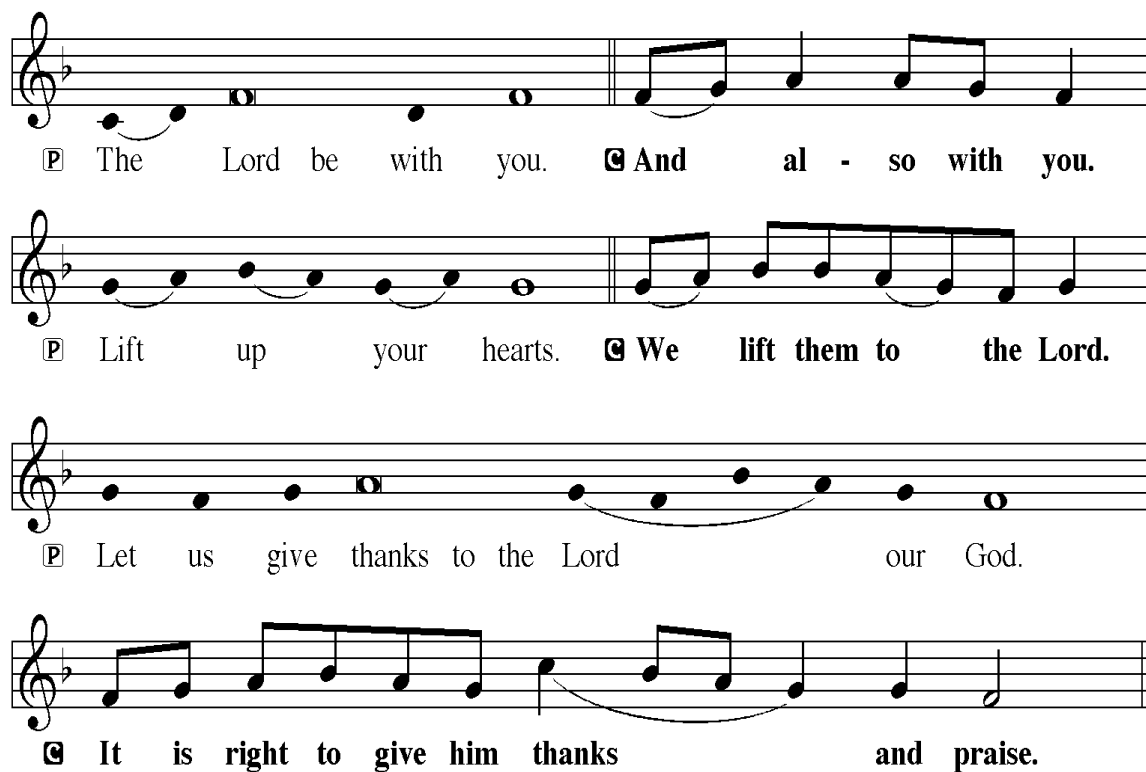
***OFFERTORY**


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

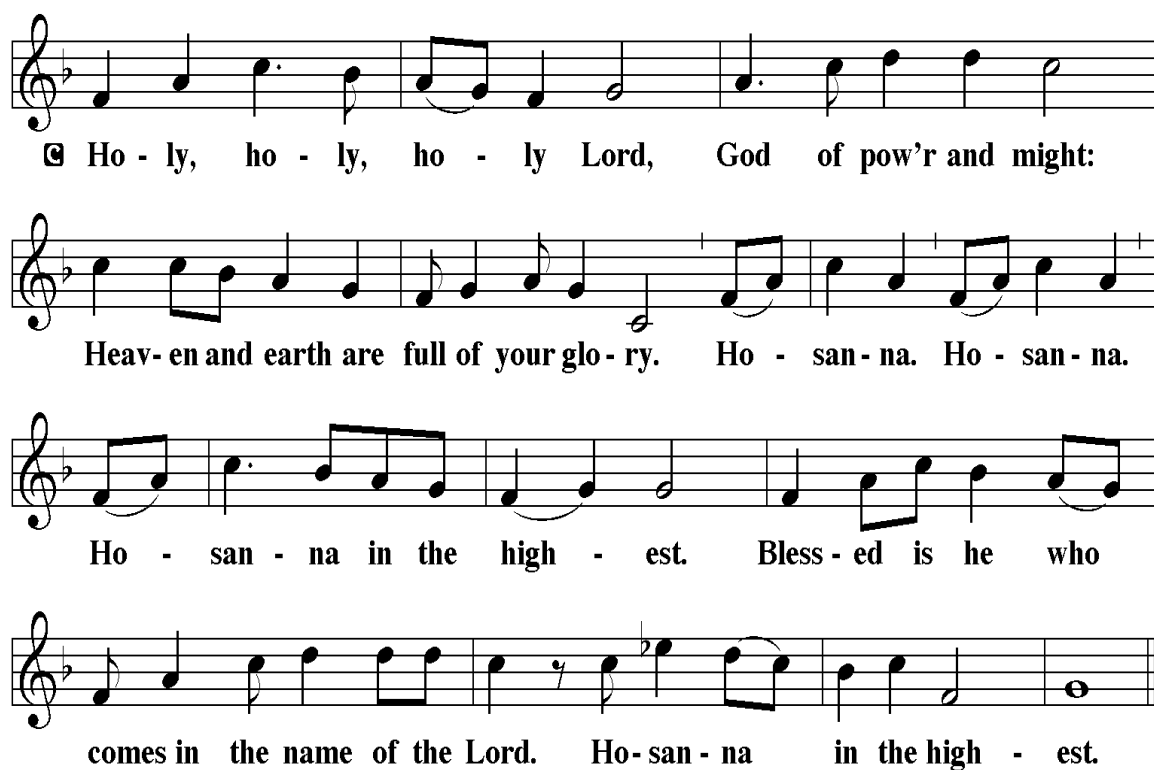
***GREAT THANKSGIVING**


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**


C 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

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**

C 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.

P 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 ~ Stand Up, Stand Up for Jesus**

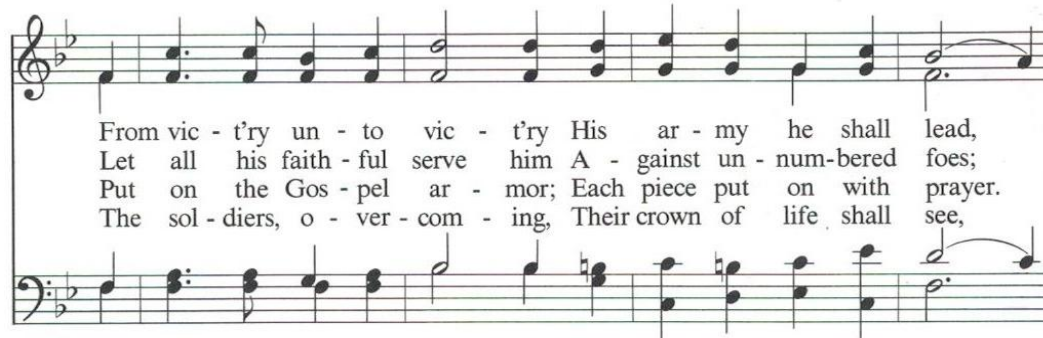
LBW # 389

Stand Up, Stand Up for Jesus**389**

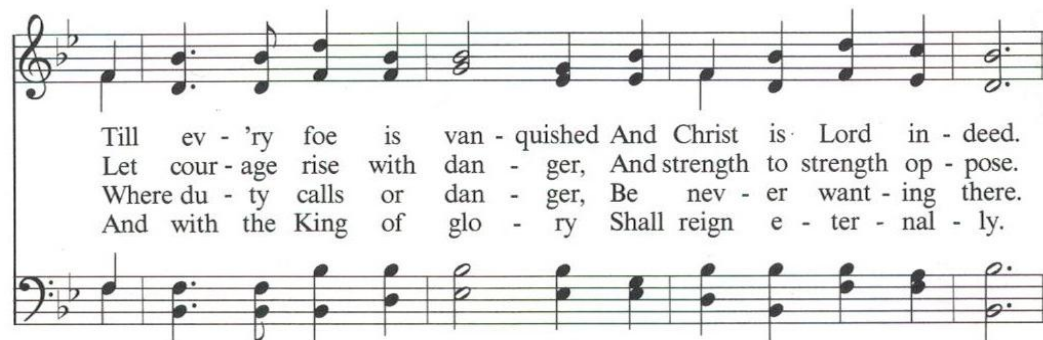

1 Stand up, stand up for Je - sus, As sol - diers of the cross,
 2 Stand up, stand up for Je - sus; The trum - pet call o - bey;
 3 Stand up, stand up for Je - sus, Stand in his strength a - lone;
 4 Stand up, stand up for Je - sus, The strife will not be long;



Lift high his roy - al ban - ner; It must not suf - fer loss.
 Stand forth in might - y con - flict In this his glo - rious day.
 The arm of flesh will fail you, You dare not trust your own.
 This day the din of bat - tle, The next the vic - tor's song.



From vic - t'ry un - to vic - t'ry His ar - my he shall lead,
 Let all his faith - ful serve him A - gainst un - num - bered foes;
 Put on the Gos - pel ar - mor; Each piece put on with prayer.
 The sol - diers, o - ver - com - ing, Their crown of life shall see,



Till ev - 'ry foe is van - quished And Christ is Lord in - deed.
 Let cour - age rise with dan - ger, And strength to strength op - pose.
 Where du - ty calls or dan - ger, Be nev - er want - ing there.
 And with the King of glo - ry Shall reign e - ter - nal - ly.

DISMISSAL*P** Go in Peace. Serve the Lord**R** Thanks be to God**POSTLUDE**

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

Music Ministry: Seulki Susie Yoo

Today

Altar Care: Joy Byler; **Greeter:** Ed Bilich

Lay Reader: Ed Bilich; **Sound:** Jay Byler

Next Sunday, May 28 ~ Pentecost

Altar Care: Joy Byler; **Greeter:** Carol Fultz

Lay Reader: Ed Bilich; **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.*

Please remember in prayer ~ Miriam Williamson, 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).

FROM the PASTOR

Upcoming events: (Bold indicates Church calendar celebrations)

Wednesday May 24 Community Planning and input meeting for the "Our Town" PBS broadcast will be held May 24 at Brookmere Winery.

Sunday May 28 Pentecost (red is the liturgical color of the day) Communion
Veterans hosted at Watt's Memorial

Monday May 29 Memorial Day observed

Sunday June 4 Trinity Sunday – Communion
Mothers/Fathers Brunch after Church

Sunday June 18 Fathers and Men of the Church Day

During the week of **May 29 - June 2,**

Monday: Kelly and Pastor Ela will be out of the office for Memorial Day.

Tuesday: Kelly and Pastor Ela will be checking in to work on bulletin

Wednesday: The pastor will be in the office on Wednesday 12PM - 3PM due to dentist appts in the morning.

Thursday: June 1 Pastor will be at the Bishops Retreat at Camp Mt. Luther. (Pastor will still be on call for emergency pastoral care)

Thank you to Joe Kanagy who will be representing St. John's Belleville congregation at Synod Assembly with Pastor Robertson, Friday and Saturday, **June 16 and 17th.**

ANNOUNCEMENTS

St. John's is once again participating in the *Baby Bottle* fundraiser for Crossroads Pregnancy Center. The bottles can be found in the narthex.

St. John's is participating in the Memorial Day parade again this year. If you would like to help, please contact the pastor or a council member.

There will be a Mother/Father Brunch following worship on Sunday, June 4. Place settings and beverages are being provided. A sign-up can be found in the narthex for those planning to attend, and to help provide the following ~

breakfast casseroles

breakfast pastries, donuts, coffee cake

fruit or monetary donations to purchase a fruit tray

(if possible, please sign-up by Sunday, May 28)

Camp Mt. Luther ~ The church will once again be paying camp fees for any children who would like to attend this summer. If you bring a friend who has never been there, we can get 25% off the registration fee. Program and registration information can be found at www.campmountluther.org. CML brochures are also available in the narthex. Please contact the church office if interested in attending.

January 1 thru May 18, 2023

Last week's attendance ~ 26 Offering ~ \$1,160.00

St. John's ~ Income \$ 64,934.94 Expense \$ 71,285.43

Net Income \$ -6,350.49

Daycare ~ Income \$ 134,117.76 Expense \$ 137,888.61

Net Income \$- 3,770.85