

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



**Seventh Sunday after Pentecost
July 16, 2023**

PRELUDE

WELCOME

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Pastor Richard Nyakaana will not be with us today. We welcome back Pastor Debbie Sluder, a retired Methodist minister, who will give our message today.

*GATHERING SONG ~ *In the Morning When I Rise*

In the Morning When I Rise

Give Me Jesus

TRUST, GUIDANCE

777

1 In the morn-ing when I rise, in the morn-ing when I rise,
 2 Dark . . . mid - night was my cry, dark . . . mid - night was my cry,
 3 Just a - bout the break of day, just a - bout the break of day,
 4 Oh, . . . when I come to die, oh, . . . when I come to die,
 5 And . . . when I want to sing, and . . . when I want to sing,

in the morn - ing when I rise, give me Je - sus.
 dark . . . mid - night was my cry, give me Je - sus.
 just a - bout the break of day, give me Je - sus.
 oh, . . . when I come to die, give me Je - sus.
 and . . . when I want to sing, give me Je - sus.

Refrain

Give me Je - sus, give me Je - sus.

You may have all the rest, give me Je - sus.

***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.

P You are the treasured people of the LORD,

C a people holy to the LORD our God.

P Keep the words of the LORD in your heart; teach them to your children.

C Talk about them when you are at home and when you are away, when you lie down and when you rise.

P One does not live by bread alone,

C but by every word that comes from the mouth of the LORD.

***SCRIPTURE SONG**



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



I 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.



II 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...

C Almighty God, we thank you for planting in us the seed of your word. By your Holy Spirit help us to receive it with joy, live according to it, and grow in faith and hope and love, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.

THE LESSONS

First Lesson ~ A reading from Isaiah 55:10-13

after the reading

R The word of the Lord. C Thanks be to God.

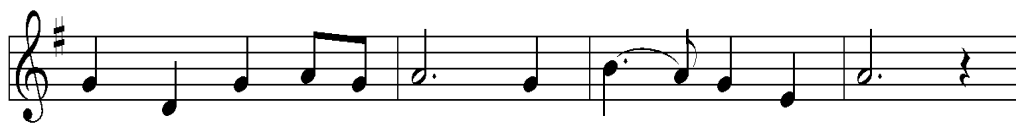
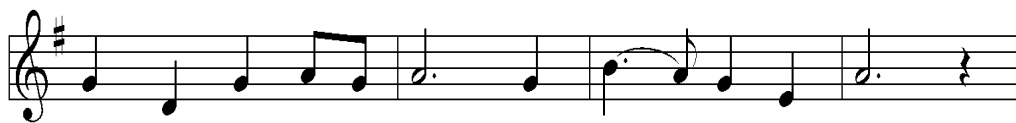
Psalm 65:1-13 ~ *with response*

Second Lesson ~ A reading from Romans 8:1-11

after the reading

R The word of the Lord. C Thanks be to God.

***GOSPEL ACCLAMATION**



***GOSPEL READING**

P The Holy Gospel according to Matthew, the 13th chapter.

C Glory to you, O Lord.

After the reading


P The Gospel of the Lord. **C Praise to you, O Christ.**

MESSAGE ~ Rev. Debbie Sluder

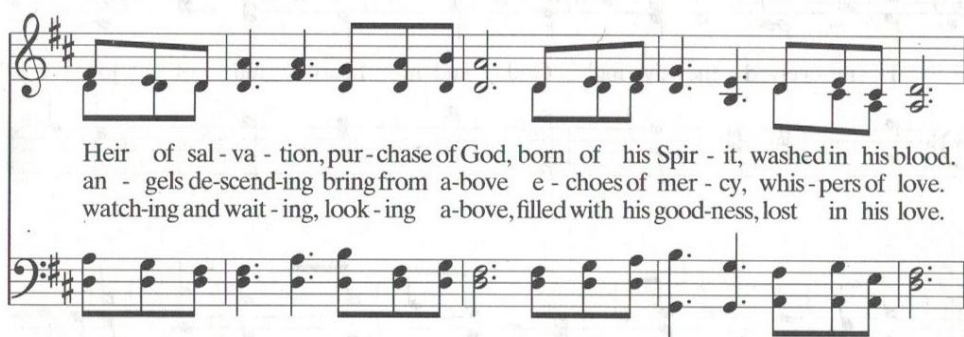
HYMN ~ Blessed Assurance

Blessed Assurance

699

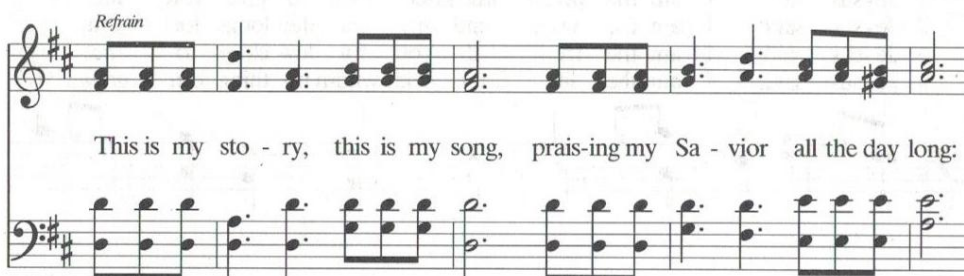


1 Bless-ed as-sur-ance, Je-sus is mine! Oh, what a fore-taste of glo-ry di-vine!
 2 Per-fect sub-mis-sion, per-fect de-light, vi-sions of rap-ture now burst on my sight;
 3 Per-fect sub-mis-sion, all is at rest; I in my Sa-vior am hap-py and blest,



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.

***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**



Glo - ry to you, God, for yours is the earth;
yours the a - noint - ing, the ra - di - ant worth.
Ours the re - joic - ing for spir - its a - flame;
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 God, our Creator,

C you open wide your hand and satisfy the desire of every living creature.

With these gifts we bless you for your tender nurture and care.

**Help us to delight in your will and walk in your ways,
through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen**

MINUTE for MISSION: Liberian mission and tuition scholarships - Joe Kanagy

***PRAYERS of the PEOPLE** ~ *Found in Celebrate*

P Trusting in God's abundant mercy, let us offer our prayers for a world 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 ~ *The Old Rugged Cross

135 **The Old Rugged Cross**

G. B. GEO. BENNARD

1. On a hill far a-way stood an old rug-ged cross, The em-blem of
 2. Oh, that old rug-ged cross so de-spised by the world, Has a wondrous at-
 3. In the old rug-ged cross, stained with blood so di-vine, A won - drous
 4. To the old rug-ged cross I will ev - er be true, Its shame and re-
 suf-f'ring and shame; And I love that old cross where the dear-est and best
 trac-tion for me; For the dear Lamb of God left His glo-ry a - bove,
 beau-ty I see; For 'twas on that old cross Je - sus suf-fered and died,
 proach gladly bear; Then He'll call me some day to my home far a - way,
 CHORUS
 For a world of lost sin-ners was slain.
 To bear it to dark Cal - va - ry. So I'll cher-ish the old rug-ged
 To par-don and sanc-ti - fy me.
 Where His glo-ry for - ev - er I'll share. cross, the
 cross,.... Till my tro-phies at last I lay down; I will cling to the
 old rugged cross,
 old rug-ged cross,..... And ex-change it some day for a crown.
 cross, the old rug-ged cross,

***DISMISSAL**

P Go in Peace. Serve the Lord

R Thanks be to God

***POSTLUDE**

Worship Team:

Guest Speaker: Rev. Debbie Sluder

Liturgy: Ed Bilich

Music Ministry: Seulki Susie Yoo

Today

Greeter: Carolyn Conner; **Lay Reader:** Jim Buchanan

Altar Care: Carol Fultz; **Sound:** Jay Byler

Next Sunday, July 23

Greeter: Joe Kanagy; **Lay Reader:** Joe Kanagy

Altar Care: Carol Fultz; **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
Jay and Joy Byler in honor of their children and grandchildren.

Please remember in prayer ~ Miriam Williamson, Anne Peachey, Desa Keiser, Elliana Byler, Kyung Sun Yim, Bob Treaster, Samantha Smith, members ~ Joyce Stuck (Greenwood Village), Betty Harmon (Celebration Villa) and Don Wolfe (VVH).

FROM the PASTOR

Pastor Robertson will be away Friday July 14 - Thursday July 20. Pastor Rick Adams ((717) 253-0235 will provide emergency pastoral care.

During service on July 9 we recognized the new Mutual Ministry Committee: Nancy Penepacker, Brenda Boring and Rosemary Meyer; and installed the new Call Committee: Chair - Joy Byler, Jim Buchanan, Deb French, Carol Fultz, Sue Lynch, Joe Kanagy. Please continue to pray for the guidance of the Holy Spirit in their work.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

There will be a Property Committee meeting tomorrow at 6:30pm in the blue room. All members are encouraged to attend,

Reba Harmon will be turning 90 tomorrow. Let's help her celebrate this milestone with cards and well-wishes. They can be mailed to 12 Poe Street, Belleville.

Included in the July/Aug newsletter was a sheet to list your favorite hymns, which will be used in our worship services throughout the summer. It can be placed in one of the offering plates or dropped off at the church office. Extras are also available in the narthex.

The Daycare yard sale is scheduled for **Tuesday, August 1 and Wednesday, August 2**. The stage is full and we now have quite a few boxes stacked in front. If you have ANYTHING in clean, useable condition to donate, place it in front of the stage/outside the double doors. No clothing or televisions...PLEASE. Thank you!

The Daycare board is asking anyone interested, to help provide healthy snacks for the children. With the cost of food continuing to increase, donations of the following items are always needed and welcomed ~

Bananas, grapes, apples, oranges (clementines), strawberries, blueberries, individual serving cups of peaches or pears whole milk, fruit juice, peanut butter, Nutella, Cheez-its, Ritz, Graham and other types of crackers, Go-gurt or other yogurt cups/tubes, pretzels, cheese balls/puffs, veggie straws, rice krispie treats and cereal bars. If you are really inspired, cookies, bar cookies or other homemade treats are always enjoyed.

Donations can be dropped off at the church office, taken to the basement kitchen or placed under the coat rack by the restrooms.

January 1 thru July 13, 2023

Last week's attendance ~ 24 Offering ~ \$1,530.00

St. John's ~ Income \$150,716.91 Expense \$ 162,498.77

Net Income \$ - 11,781.86

Daycare ~ Income \$ 177,670.98 Expense \$ 189,921.90

Net Income - \$12,250.92*

* June was a 3-pay period month