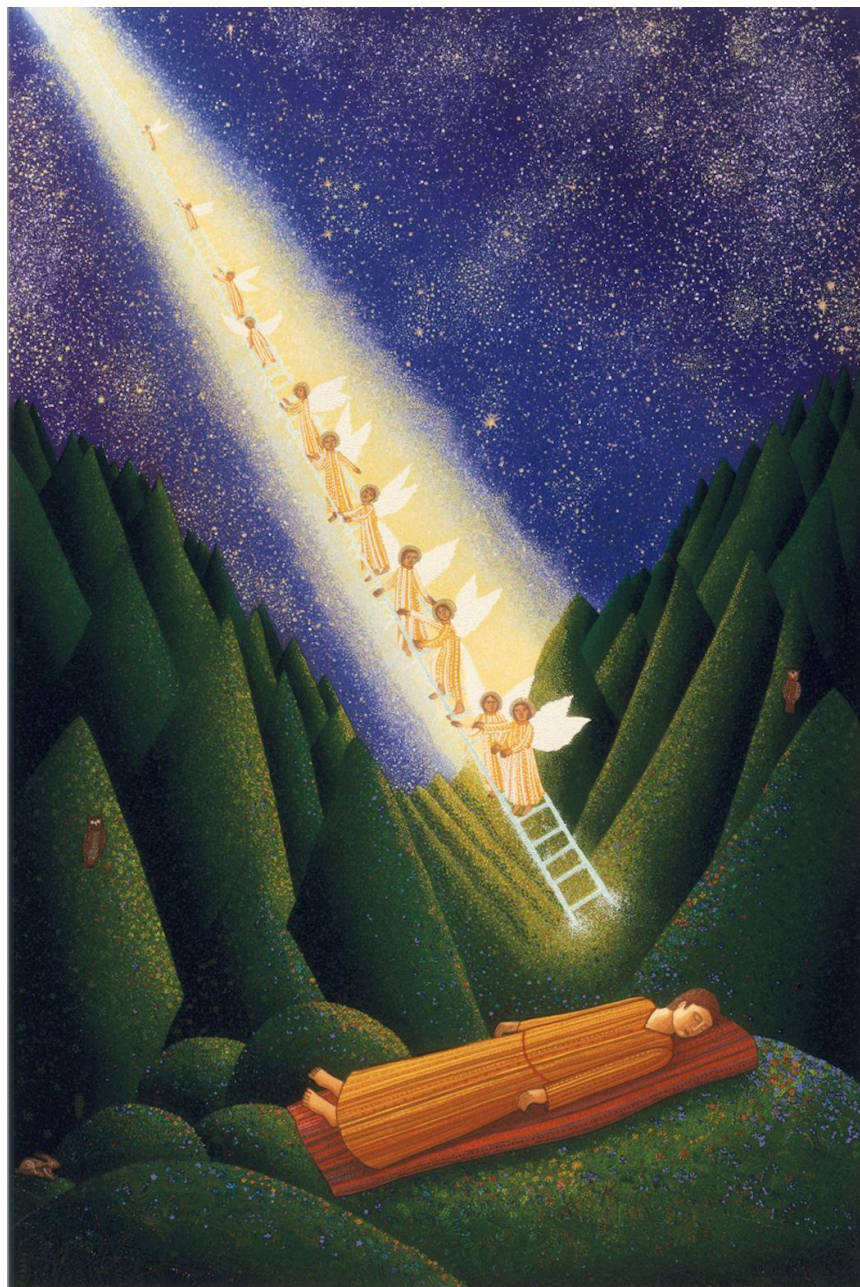


**St. John's Lutheran Church
Belleville, PA 17004**



**Eighth Sunday after Pentecost
July 23, 2023**

**PRELUDE
WELCOME
ANNOUNCEMENTS**

***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**

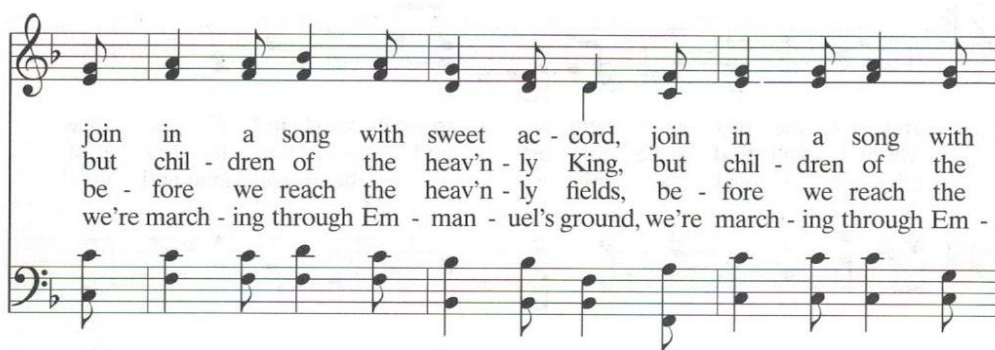
*GATHERING SONG ~ *Come, We That Love the Lord*

742

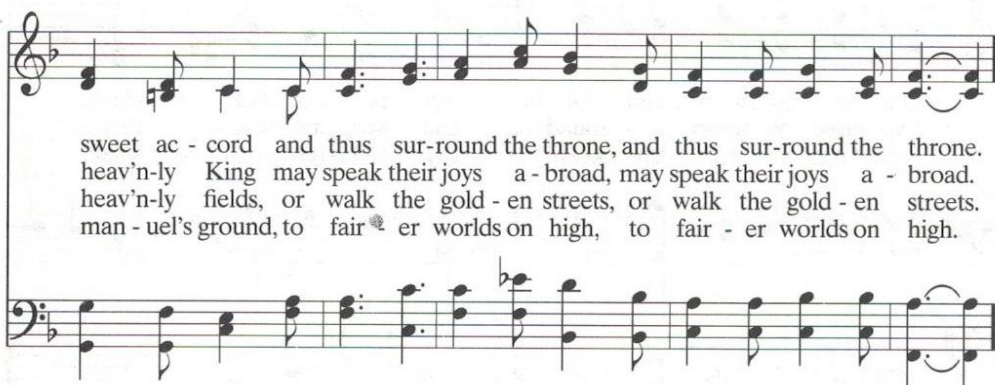
Come, We That Love the Lord



1 Come, we that love the Lord, and let our joys be known;
 2 Let those re - fuse to sing who nev - er knew our God;
 3 The hill of Zi - on yields a thou - sand sa - cred sweets
 4 Then let our songs a - bound, and ev - 'ry tear be dry;



join in a song with sweet ac - cord, join in a song with
 but chil - dren of the heav'n - ly King, but chil - dren of the
 be - fore we reach the heav'n - ly fields, be - fore we reach the
 we're march - ing through Em - man - uel's ground, we're march - ing through Em -



sweet ac - cord and thus sur-round the throne, and thus sur-round the throne.
 heav'n-ly King may speak their joys a - broad, may speak their joys a - broad.
 heav'n-ly fields, or walk the gold - en streets, or walk the gold - en streets.
 man - uel's ground, to fair - er worlds on high, to fair - er worlds on high.



Refrain
 We're march - ing to Zi - on, beau - ti - ful, beau - ti - ful Zi - on;



we're march-ing up-ward to Zi - on, the beau-ti-ful cit-y of God.

***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.

***KYRIE**



A Ky - ri - e e - le - i - son: **C** Lord, have mer - cy.
Lord, have mer - cy:



A Chri - ste e - le - i - son: **C** Christ, have mer - cy.
Christ, have mer - cy:



A Ky - ri - e e - le - i - son: **C** Lord, have mer - cy.
Lord, have mer - cy:

***HYMN of PRAISE**

☐ Glo-ry to God, glo - ry to God, glo - ry to God in the high - est;



glo - ry to God, glo - ry to God, and peace to God's 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.



☐ Glo-ry to God, glo - ry to God, glo - ry to God in the high - est;



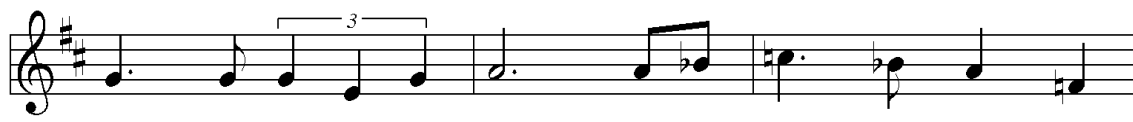
glo - ry to God, glo - ry to God, and peace to God's peo - ple on earth.



☐ Lord Je - sus Christ, on - ly Son of the Fa - ther,



Lord God, Lamb of God, you take a - way the sin of the



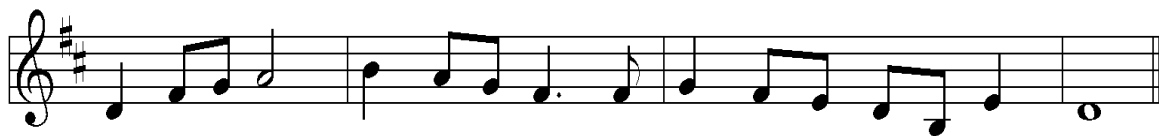
world: have mer - cy on us; you are seat - ed at the



right hand of the Fa - ther: re- ceive our prayer.



☐ Glo-ry to God, glo - ry to God, glo - ry to God in the high - est;



glo - ry to God, glo - ry to God, and peace to God's peo - ple on earth.



I For you a - lone are the Ho - ly One, you a - lone are the Lord,
II



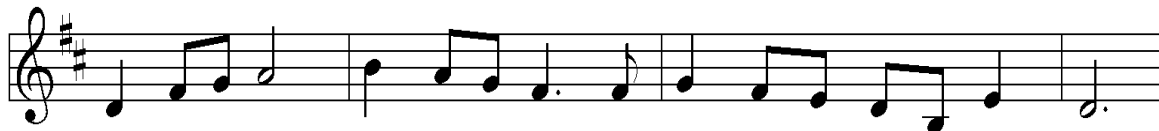
you a - lone are the Most High, Je - sus Christ, with the Ho - ly



Spir - it, in the glo - ry of God the Fa - ther, A - men.



☐ Glo-ry to God, glo - ry to God, glo - ry to God in the high - est;



glo - ry to God, glo - ry to God, and peace to God's peo - ple on earth,



and peace to God's peo - ple on earth.

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

P The Lord be with you.

C **And also with you.**

P Let us pray...

Faithful God, most merciful judge, you care for your children with firmness and compassion. By your Spirit nurture us who live in your kingdom, that we may be rooted in the way of your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.

THE LESSONS

First Lesson ~ A reading from Genesis 28:10-19a (*not included in Celebrate*)
after the reading

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

Psalm 86:11-17 ~ *with response*

Second Lesson ~ A reading from Romans 8:12-25
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?

Al - le - lu - ia. 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 Matthew the 13th chapter.

C **Glory to you, O Lord.**

The Gospel is read. After the reading

P The Gospel of the Lord

C **Praise to you, O Christ.**

MESSAGE

HYMN ~ *We Are Climbing Jacob's Ladder*

287

We Are Climbing Jacob's Ladder

GENESIS 28:10-17
American Folk Hymn

JACOB'S LADDER 888.5.
American Folk Hymn

1. We are climb - ing Ja - cob's lad - der. We are
 2. Ev - ery round goes high - er, high - er. Ev - ery
 3. Sin - ner, do you love my Je - sus? Sin - ner,
 4. If you love him, why not serve him? If you
 5. We are climb - ing high - er, high - er. We are

climb - ing Ja - cob's lad - der. We are climb - ing
 round goes high - er, high - er. Ev - ery round goes
 do you love my Je - sus? Sin - ner, do you
 love him, why not serve him? If you love him,
 climb - ing high - er, high - er. We are climb - ing

Ja - cob's lad - der, Sol - diers of the cross.
 high - er, high - er, Sol - diers of the cross.
 love my Je - sus? Sol - diers of the cross.
 why not serve him? Sol - diers of the cross.
 high - er, high - er, Sol - diers of the cross. A - men.

***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 ~ *Found in Celebrate

P Confident that God receives our joys and concerns; let us offer our prayers for
the church, those in need, and all of creation

A brief silence.

***THE PEACE**

P The peace of the Lord be with you always.

C And also with you.

P Let us extend the Peace of Christ to those here and beyond the walls of the
sanctuary into the world.

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.



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 dreams of all; u - nite them with the prayers we



of - fer now. Grace our ta - ble with your pres - ence,



Lord, 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 also 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 our thanks and praise.

Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow-er and
might, heav - en and earth are full of your glo - ry.
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. Ho - san - na in the high - est.

*EUCCHARISTIC PRAYER

P Holy, mighty, and merciful Lord,
heaven and earth are full of your glory.
In great love you sent to us Jesus, your Son,
who reached out to heal the sick and suffering,
who preached good news to the poor,
and who, on the cross, opened his arms to all.

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.

Remembering, therefore, his death, resurrection, and ascension,
we await his coming in glory.

Pour out your Holy Spirit,
that by this Holy Communion we may know
the unity we share with all your people
in the body of your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord.

Through him, with him, in him, in the unity of the Holy Spirit,
all glory and honor is yours, almighty Father, now and forever.

C **Amen**

***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 is 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
for ever. Amen**

P You are holy, O God of majesty, and blessed is Jesus Christ, your son, our
Lord. . . With Thanksgiving, we offer our very selves to you to be a living and holy
sacrifice, dedicated to your service.

COMMUNION SONG: *Altar Song*

*All I am, Oh, all I am; All I am, I bring to you, I bring to you.
All my heart, Oh, All my heart, All my heart I bring to you, I bring to you
All my tears, Oh, All my tears, All my tears I bring to you, I bring to you
All my joy, All my joy, All my joy, I bring to you, I bring to you.*

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.

***CANTICLE**

Thank - ful hearts and voic - es raise; tell ev - 'ry -

one what God has done. Let all who seek the

Lord re - joice and bear Christ's ho - ly name.

Send us with your prom - is - es, O God, and

lead us forth in joy with shouts of thanks -

giv - ing. Al - le - lu - ia.

***PRAYER**

P Let us pray.

Almighty God, you provide the true bread from heaven, your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord. Grant that we who have received the Sacrament of his body and blood may abide in him and he in us, that we may be filled with the power of his endless life, now and forever.

C Amen

***BLESSING**

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

C Amen

***SENDING SONG ~ Do Lord**

Do Lord

Joyfully 1 Bible Song

Piano

mf

3

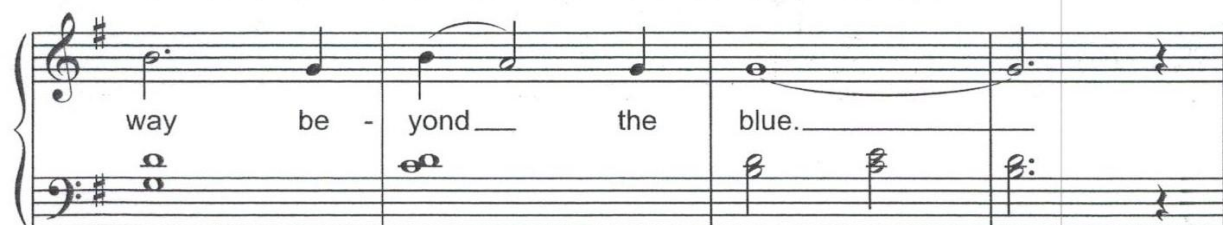
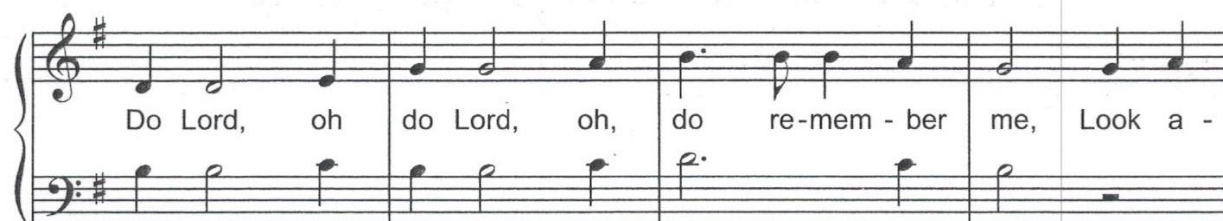
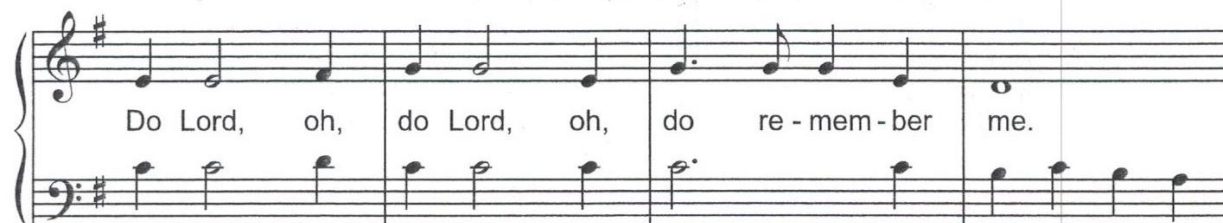
I've got a home in glo - ry land that out - shines the sun,

I've got a home in glo - ry land that out - shines the sun,

I've got a home in glo - ry land that out - shines the sun, Look a -

way be - yond the blue.

Continued on next page



Verse 2

I took Jesus as my Savior, you take Him too,
 I took Jesus as my Savior, you take Him too,
 I took Jesus as my Savior, you take Him too,
 Look away beyond the blue.
 Do Lord, oh, do Lord, oh, do remember me,
 Do Lord, oh, do Lord, oh, do remember me,
 Do Lord, oh, do Lord, oh, do remember me,
 Look away beyond the blue.

***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

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

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

Next Sunday, July 30

Altar Care: Carol Fultz; **Greeter:** Jami Zook

Lay Reader: Jami Zook; **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 are given to the Glory of God
by Holly Cleck, Jami Zook and Jim Harmon
in honor of their mother, Reba Harmon's 90th birthday.

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).

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Its Liberia Tuition Sponsorship time and Joe Kanagy will be in the narthex with student profiles. If you are not already, please consider becoming a new sponsor in the program. YOU can make the difference in the life of a child.

The Daycare yard sale is being held next **Tuesday, August 1 and Wednesday, August 2**. Set-up begins this Wednesday. If you have ANYTHING in clean, useable condition to donate, place it in front of the stage/outside the double doors, **by this Friday...please!** No clothing or televisions. 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 20, 2023

Last week's attendance ~ 25	Offering ~ \$1,075.00
St. John's ~ Income \$151,791.91	Expense \$ 164,330.06
Net Income \$ - 12,538.15	

Daycare ~ Income \$ 177,670.98	Expense \$ 189,921.90
Net Income - \$12,250.92*	

* June was a 3-pay period month