

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



**Twelfth Sunday after Pentecost  
August 20, 2023**

**The Sacrament of Baptism for:**

*Children of Noah Harmon and Natalie Faith*

*Hugh (Hughie) Jared Harmon born. May 18, 2018*

*Olivia Rose (Rosie) Harmon born August 22, 2021.*

*Children of Levi Harmon and Sophia Harmon*

*Raegan Elizabeth Harmon born October 28, 2020*

*Louis James Harmon born July 9, 2022*

**PRELUDE**

**WELCOME**

Welcome to all on this 12th Sunday after Pentecost. In these last weeks of summer, as children prepare to return to school and back packs are packed, we celebrate all children of God with a quartet of children coming to baptized today. We are blessed to celebrate both sacraments today, communion and baptism, and to be nurtured by and immersed in the love of Christ.

**ANNOUNCEMENTS**

## **THANKSGIVING for BAPTISM**

P Blessed be the holy Trinity, + one God, the fountain of living water, the rock who gave us birth, our light and our salvation.

C **Amen**

P Joined to Christ in the waters of baptism, we are clothed with God's mercy and forgiveness. Let us give thanks for the gift of baptism.

*Water may be poured into the font as the presiding minister gives thanks.*

We give you thanks, O God, for in the beginning your Spirit moved over the Waters and by your Word you created the world, calling forth life in which you took delight.

We praise you for the gift of water that sustains life, and above all we praise you for the gift of new life in Jesus Christ. Shower us with your Spirit, and renew our lives with your forgiveness, grace, and love.

To you be given honor and praise through Jesus Christ our Lord in the unity of the Holy Spirit, now and forever.

C **Amen.**

### **\*GATHERING SONG – “He’s Got the Whole World In His Hands”**

He's got the whole world in His hands,  
He's got the whole world in His hands,  
He's got the whole world in His hands,  
He's got the whole world in His hands.

He's got the itty bitty baby in his hands  
He's got you and me, brother, in His hands,  
He's got you and me, sister, in His hands,  
He's got the whole world in His hands.

## **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: **G** Lord, have mer - cy.  
*Lord, . . . . have mer - cy:*



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



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

**\*HYMN of PRAISE**

**G** 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** 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.



**G** 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.

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

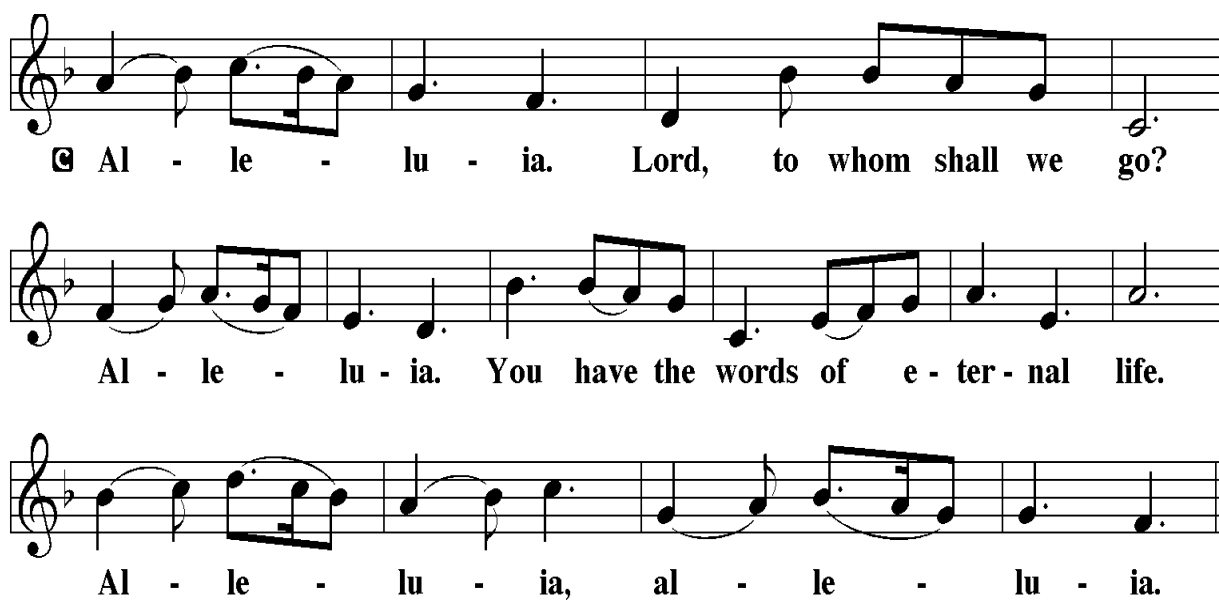
P The Lord be with you.

C And also with you.

P Let us pray...

**God of all peoples, your arms reach out to embrace all those who call upon you. Teach us as disciples of your Son to love the world with compassion and constancy, that your name may be known throughout the earth, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.**

**\*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 15<sup>th</sup> chapter, verses 10-18

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.

Reflection: *Baptism and Parenting the Children of God*

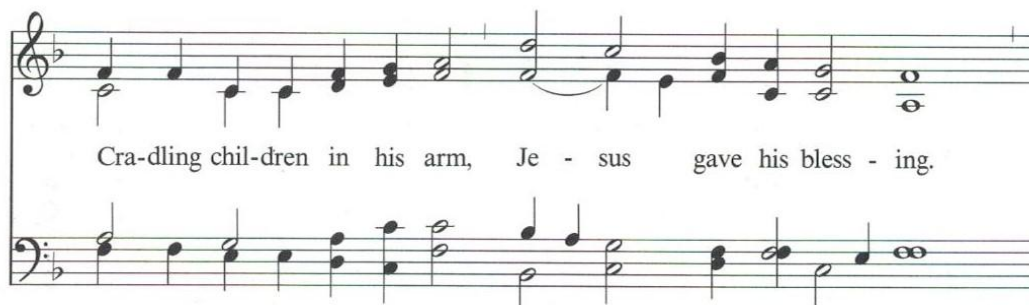
Rev. Robertson

Hymn ~ *Cradling Children in His Arm*

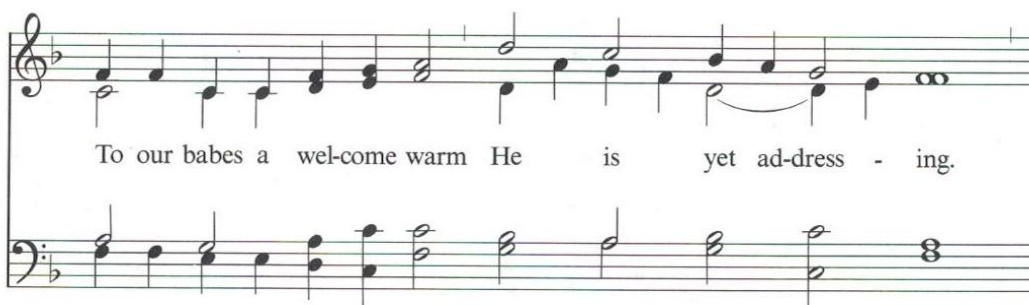
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HOLY BAPTISM

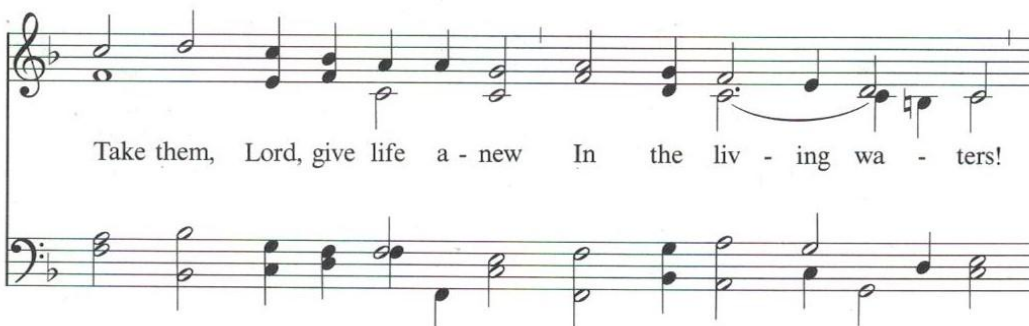
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*Cradling Children in His Arm*


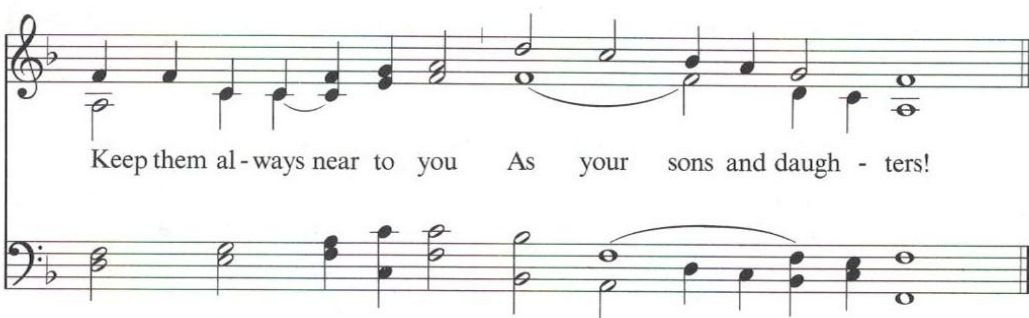
Cra-dling chil-dren in his arm, Je - sus gave his bless - ing.



To our babes a wel-come warm He is yet ad-dress - ing.



Take them, Lord, give life a - new In the liv - ing wa - ters!



Keep them al-ways near to you As your sons and daugh - ters!

## **HOLY BAPTISM**

[Parents, those to be baptized and sponsors will come to the front after Affirmation of Faith]

P The Lord be with you.

C **And also with you.**

P Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

C **It is right to give him thanks and praise.**

C **Amen**

P Natalie and Noah, Sophia and Levi, your older children already having been baptized, you have requested that your younger children be baptized today.

P Do you promise to fulfill the obligations of Christian education, love and nurturance for these children through their life?

**Parents ~ We do.**

P I ask you to profess your faith in Christ Jesus, reject sin, and confess the faith of the Church, the faith in which we baptize.

P Do you renounce all the forces of evil, the devil, and all his empty promises?

**Parents ~ I do.**

**Apostles Creed - responsive**

P Do you believe in God the Father?

**Parents and Congregation:**

**I believe in God, the Father almighty, creator of heaven and earth.**

P Do you believe in Jesus Christ, the Son of God?

**Parents and Congregation:**

**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 to the dead.**

**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.**

**P** Do you believe in God the Holy Spirit?

**Parents and Congregation:**

**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**

[Parents, family and sponsors may come forward to the font]

**Baptized by Water and the Holy Spirit**

**P** Natalie and Noah, who do you present to receive the Sacrament of Holy Baptism today?

**Parents - Natalie and Noah:**

**We present *Hugh Jared Harmon and Olivia Rose Harmon*, Hughie and Rosie, to receive the Sacrament of Holy Baptism.**

**P** Sophia and Levi, who do you present to receive the Sacrament of Holy Baptism today?

**Parents ~ Sophia and Levi:**

**We present *Raegan Elizabeth Harmon and Louis James Harmon*, to receive the Sacrament of Holy Baptism.**

**INVOCATION:** *Veni Sanctus Spiritus - Holy Spirit, Come to Us*

Organ and Pastor 1x, Congregation join and continue with chant and repeat until the first baptism.

## Veni Sancte Spiritus Holy Spirit, Come to Us

PENTECOST, THE HOLY SPIRIT

686

*Ostinato (repeated continuously)*

A Bm<sup>7</sup>/A A Bm<sup>7</sup>/A

Ve - ni San - cte Spi - ri - tus. Ve - ni San - cte Spi - ri - tus.  
Ho - ly Spir - it, come to us. Ho - ly Spir - it, come to us.

*After the ostinato has begun, verses may be sung over it; space is left between the verses as the ostinato continues.*

Leader

1 Come, Ho - ly Spir - it, from heav - en shine forth  
with your glo - rious light. Ve - ni San - cte Spi - ri - tus.

P *Hugh Jared Harmon*, I baptize you in the name of the Father... and of the Son... and of the Holy Spirit...Amen

P *Olivia Rose Harmon*, I baptize you in the name of the Father...and of the Son... and of the Holy Spirit... Amen

P *Raegan Elizabeth Harmon*, I baptize you in the name of the Father...and of the Son... and of the Holy Spirit... Amen

P *Louis James Harmon*, I baptize you in the name of the Father...and of the Son... and of the Holy Spirit... Amen

P God, the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, we give you thanks for freeing your sons and daughters from the power of sin and for raising them up to a new life through this holy sacrament. Pour your Holy Spirit upon Hughie, Rosie, Raegan

and Louis. Give them the spirit of wisdom and understanding, the spirit of counsel and might, the spirit of knowledge and the awe of the Lord and the spirit of joy in Your presence.

**C Amen**

### Sealed by the Spirit

[Pastor anoints each child]

P Children of God, you have been sealed by the Holy Spirit and marked with the cross of Christ forever.

**HYMN:** *You Have Put on Christ*

WOV #694

Organ plays 1x as Pastor sings, Congregation responds 1x

694 You Have Put On Christ

You have put on Christ, in him you have been bap - tized.

Al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia!

*\*May be sung in two or three part canon.*

Text: Gal 3:27, International Commission on English in the Liturgy  
 Music: Howard Hughes, b. 1930  
 Text © 1969, music © 1977 ICEL

BAPTIZED IN CHRIST  
irregular

### Receiving the Light of Christ

*Representatives of the congregation light a candle from the Christ Candle and give them to the parents, one for each child baptized.*

### Representative of Congregation

Let your light so shine before others that they may see your good works and glorify your Father in heaven.

**HYMN: *This Little Light of Mine***

[The older children and any other children who want to join may lead the singing from the front as congregation joins in. Parents and baptized children may stand with them holding their candles.]

This little light of mine, I'm gonna let it shine.  
This little light of mine, I'm gonna let it shine.  
This little light of mine, I'm gonna let it shine.  
Let it shine, let it shine, let it shine.

I'm gonna take this light around the world, I'm gonna let it shine.  
I'm gonna take this light around the world, I'm gonna let it shine.  
I'm gonna take this light around the world, I'm gonna let it shine.  
Let it shine, let it shine, let it shine.

**Welcomed into the Family of God**

**Representative of Congregation**

Through Baptism God has made these children members of St. John's Lutheran church. We all share in Christ Jesus, that we may proclaim the praise of God and bear his creative and redeeming Word to all the world.

**Congregation (*please stand*) ~ We welcome you into the Lord's family.  
We receive you as fellow members of the body of Christ, children of the same heavenly Father, and workers with us in the kingdom of God.**

P O God, the giver of all life, look with kindness upon the fathers and mothers of these children. Let them ever rejoice in the gift you have given them. Make them teachers and examples of Your love. Strengthen them in their own Baptism so they may share eternally with their child the salvation you have given them, through Jesus Christ our Lord.

**C Amen**

**The Peace is shared**

P Peace be with you.

**C Peace be with you.**

P Please extend to the peace of Christ to the newly baptized and their parents, to the congregations and beyond the walls of our 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.

# **\*OFFERTORY PRAYER**

P Let us pray.

P Blessed are you,

**C O Lord our God, maker of all things. Through your goodness you have blessed us with these gifts. With them we offer ourselves to your service and dedicate our lives to the care and redemption of all that you have made, for the sake of him who gave 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.**

It is indeed right and salutary that we should at all times and in all places offer thanks . . . *(Here the minister continues with the proper preface, concluding:)* we praise your name and join their unending hymn:

**Congregation:**



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**

## **HOLY COMMUNION**

*[Members of the congregation may come forward and stand or kneel to take 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.**

### **\*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 Communion and celebrated this Sacrament of Baptism may abide in Christ 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 ~ *Shine, Jesus, Shine*

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## Shine, Jesus, Shine

*Refrain*

Shine, Je - sus, shine, fill this land with the Fa - ther's glo - ry;

blaze, Spir - it, blaze, set our hearts on fire.

Flow, riv - er, flow, flood the na - tions with love and mer - cy;

send forth your Word, Lord, and let there be light!

*To stanzas*  
E/A D A

*End*  
A

*Continued on next page*

A D A E/A A D

1 Lord, the light of your love is shin - ing, in the midst of the  
2 As we gaze on your king - ly bright-ness, so our fac - es dis -

A E/A D E<sup>7</sup> C<sup>#</sup>m F<sup>#</sup>m

dark - ness, shin - ing; Je - sus, light of the world, shine up - on us,  
play your like - ness, ev - er chang - ing from glo - ry to glo - ry,

D E<sup>7</sup> C<sup>#</sup>m F<sup>#</sup>m G

set us free by the truth you now bring us. Shine on  
mir - rored here, may our lives tell your sto - ry. Shine on

Esus<sup>4</sup> E G Esus<sup>4</sup> E Refrain

me, shine on me: shine on me:  
me, shine on me:

**\*DISMISSAL**

**Remembering our Baptism**

To share and commemorate the children's baptism and to remember our own, you are invited to touch the water and take a stone from the font as you leave.

P Go in Peace. Serve the Lord. Remember you are a child of God immersed in Christ, ignited by the Holy Spirit!

**R Thanks be to God**

**POSTLUDE**

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

**Music Ministry:** Seulki Susie Yoo

**Today**

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

**Altar Care:** Susan Keller; **Sound:** Jay Byler

**Next Sunday, August 27**

**Greeter: Volunteer Needed; Lay Reader:** Mike Harshbarger

**Altar Care:** Susan Keller; **Sound:** Joe Kanagy

**Church Office:** 935-2032; **Email us at** [secretary@stjohnsbelleville.org](mailto: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 Ed and Cindy Bilich in memory of Agnes Bilich.

The white roses are given to the Glory of God in honor of Hugh, Olivia, Raegen and Louis Harmon on the day of their Baptism.

## ANNOUNCEMENTS

The Property Committee will be meeting tomorrow evening at 6:30pm in the blue room.

The Music and Worship committee will be meeting this Wednesday, August 23 at 10am in the blue room to select hymns. All members are encouraged to attend.

As a mission project, Council is collecting school supplies to fill backpacks for students at Indian Valley Elementary. Below is a list of the needed items, which are readily available at local Dollar Stores, Wal-Mart, Target, etc. They are also collecting needed items for the Shelter Service. Donations can be placed in the boxes located in the narthex and restroom area.

### **Backpack Supplies**

Pencils  
Erasers  
Folders  
Note books  
Lunch boxes/bags

### **Shelter Services**

Zip lock bags  
Aluminum foil  
Condiments of all kinds (ketchup, mustard, mayonnaise, etc.)  
Twin size sheets and comforters  
Adult and child backpacks

Located in the narthex/elevator is the latest *Lutheran Message* booklet. Not to be confused with the “Living Lutheran” magazine.

It is provided free of charge to Lutheran churches across the US. It is not affiliated with the ELCA or any synod. Their purpose is to provide inspirational and uplifting articles and poems for all who share the Lutheran “family name”.

Please pick up a copy for yourself and others who may enjoy reading one.

January 1 thru August 17, 2023

Last week's attendance ~ 25      Offering ~ \$ 1,325.00

St. John's ~ Income \$167,160.55      Expense \$ 175,759.34

Net Income \$ - 8,598.79\*

Daycare ~ Income \$ 194,892.50      Expense \$ 212,552.00

Net Income - \$17,659.50\*

\* June was a 3-pay period month