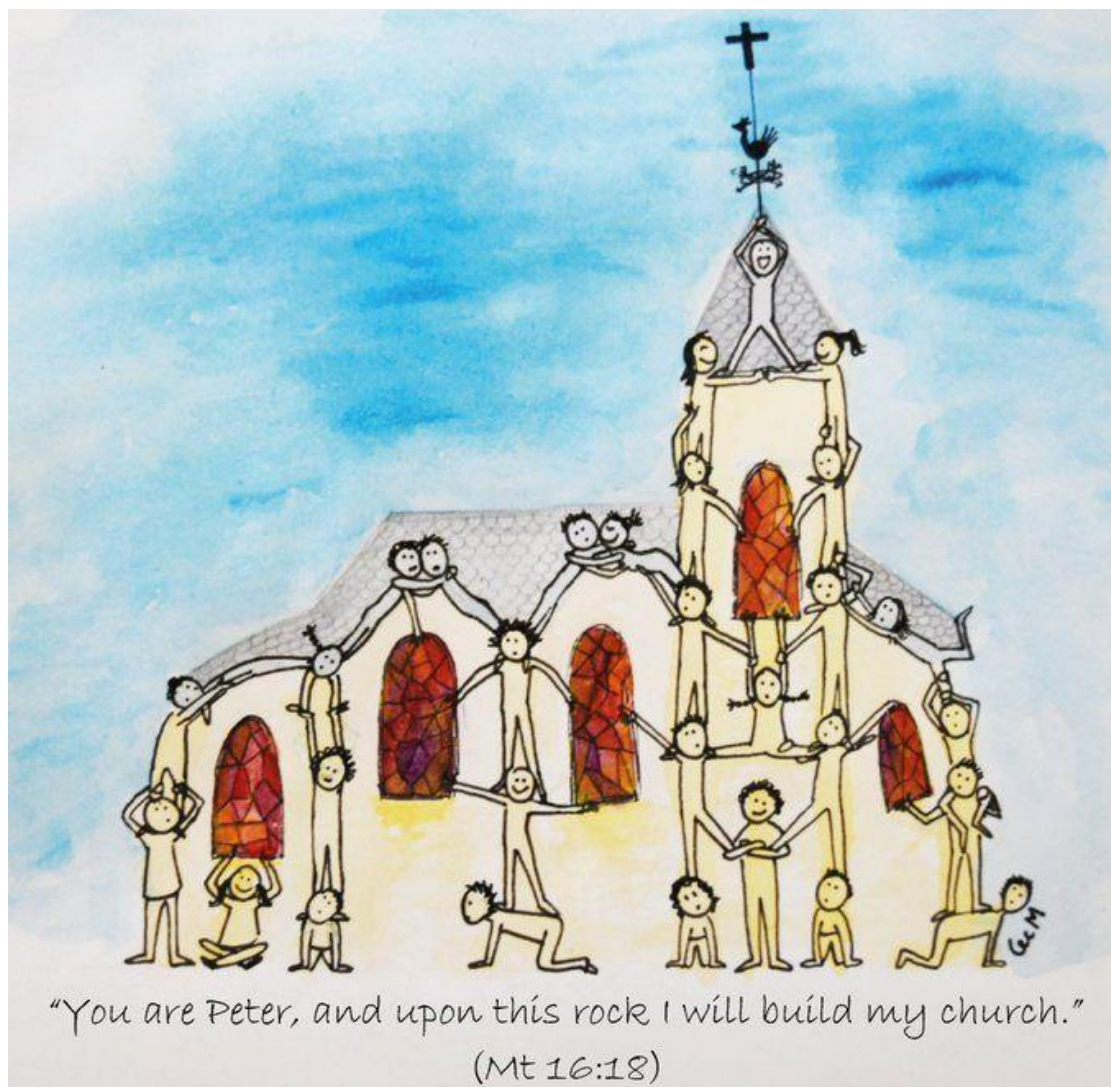


St. John's Lutheran Church Belleville, PA



Thirteenth Sunday after Pentecost August 27, 2023

PRELUDE

WELCOME

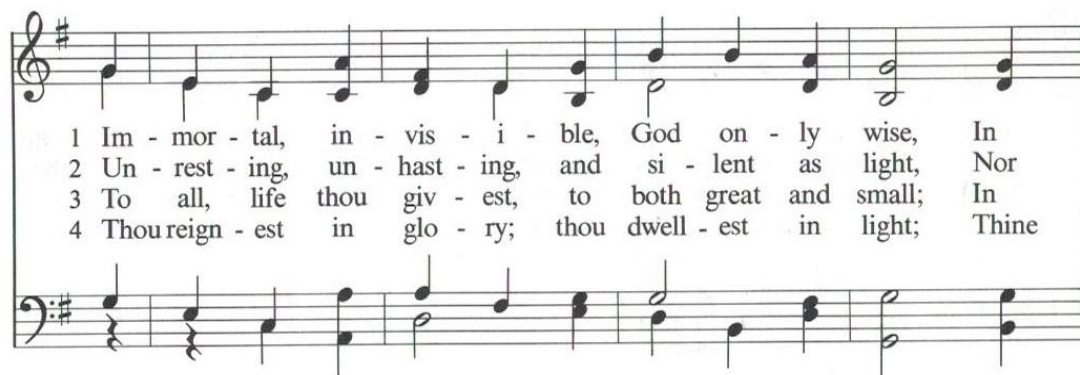
Welcome on this last Sunday of August! As we try to squeeze a last bit of summer activities in before Labor Day we are thankful for the gatherings we have been able to enjoy that have felt almost 'back to normal.' As we gather together today let us remember how important fellowship with God and each other is to our lives, our Church and the mission of Jesus Christ.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

*GATHERING SONG ~ *Immortal, Invisible, God Only Wise*

Immortal, Invisible, God Only Wise

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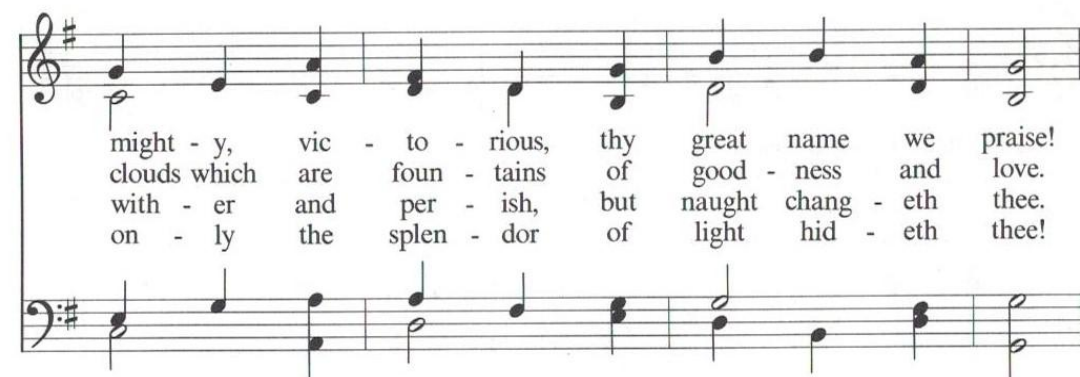
1 Im - mor - tal, in - vis - i - ble, God on - ly wise, In
 2 Un - rest - ing, un - hast - ing, and si - lent as light, Nor
 3 To all, life thou giv - est, to both great and small; In
 4 Thou reign - est in glo - ry; thou dwell - est in light; Thine



light in - ac - ces - si - ble hid from our eyes, Most
 want - ing, nor wast - ing, thou rul - est in might; Thy
 all life thou liv - est, the true life of all; We
 an - gels a - dore thee, all veil - ing their sight; All



bles - ed, most glo - rious, the An - cient of Days, Al -
 jus - tice like moun - tains high soar - ing a - bove Thy
 blos - som and flour - ish like leaves on the tree, And
 laud we would ren - der; oh, help us to see 'Tis



might - y, vic - to - rious, thy great name we praise!
 clouds which are foun - tains of good - ness and love.
 with - er and per - ish, but naught chang - eth thee.
 on - ly the splen - dor of light hid - eth thee!

***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.



☐ 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...

C O God, with all your faithful followers of every age, we praise you, the rock of our life. Be our strong foundation and form us into the body of your Son, that we may gladly minister to all the world, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.

THE LESSONS

First Lesson ~ A reading from Isaiah 51:1-6

after the reading

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

Psalm 138 ~ *with response*

Second Lesson ~ A reading from Romans 12:1-8

after the reading

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

***GOSPEL ACCLAMATION**



Word of life, Je- sus Christ, all glo - ry to you!



Word of life, Je- sus Christ, all praise to you!



Our hearts burn with - in us while you o- pen to us the Scrip- tures.



Word of life, Je- sus Christ, all glo - ry to you!



Word of life, Je- sus Christ, all praise to you!

***GOSPEL READING**

P The Holy Gospel according to Matthew, the 16th chapter.

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

After the reading

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

MESSAGE

HYMN ~ When He Cometh

1. When He com - eth, when He com - eth To make up His jew - els;
 2. He will gath - er, He will gath - er The gems for His king - dom,
 3. Lit - tle chil - dren, lit - tle chil - dren Who love their Re - deem - er

All His jew - els, pre - cious jew - els, His loved and His own.
 All the pure ones, all the bright ones, His loved and His own.
 Are the jew - els, pre - cious jew - els, His loved and His own.

Chorus

Like the stars of the morn - ing, His bright crown a - dorn - ing,

They shall shine in their beau - ty, Bright gems for His crown.

***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 for the Offertory is written in G major (one sharp) and common time. It consists of six staves of music. The lyrics are as follows:

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**

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.

***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**

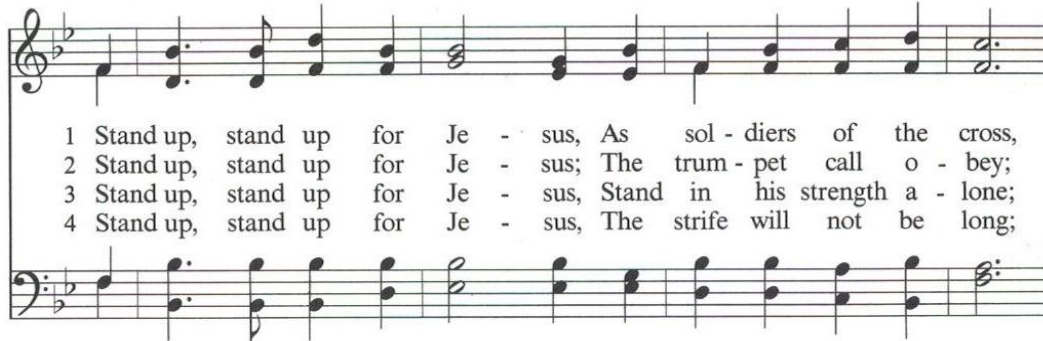
P Almighty God, Father, + Son, and Holy Spirit, bless you now and forever.

C Amen

*SENDING SONG ~ *Stand Up, Stand Up for Jesus*

Stand Up, Stand Up for Jesus

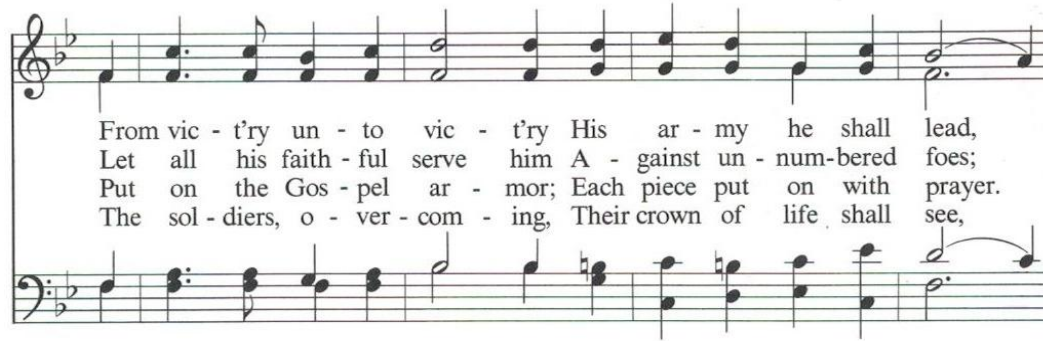
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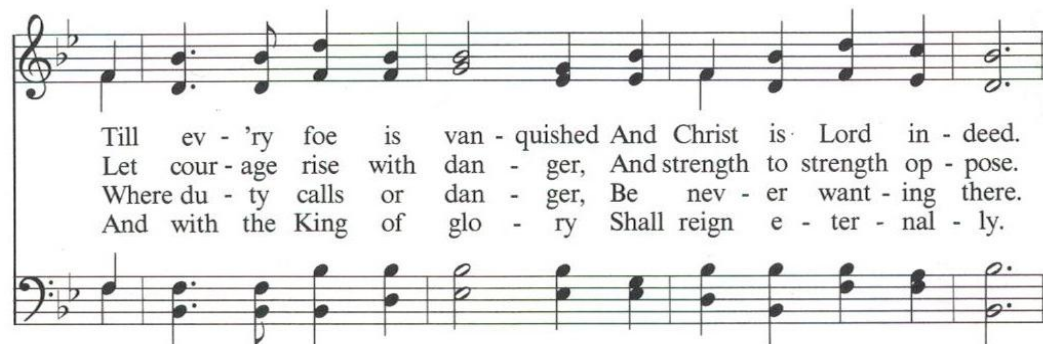
1 Stand up, stand up for Je - sus, As sol - diers of the cross,
 2 Stand up, stand up for Je - sus; The trum - pet call o - bey;
 3 Stand up, stand up for Je - sus, Stand in his strength a - lone;
 4 Stand up, stand up for Je - sus, The strife will not be long;



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

Greeter: Volunteer Needed; Lay Reader: Mike Harshbarger

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

Next Sunday, September 3

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

Altar Care: Georgianna Buchanan; **Sound:** Joe Kanagy

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 Ruth Baker in loving memory of her parents.

Please remember in prayer ~ Sarah Robertson (neck surgery, Pastor's niece),
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

CHURCH ACCESS during week days:

If you are visiting the church when Day Care is in session approx. Monday - Friday 7AM - 6PM, please drive into and park in the front parking lot; do not drive through or park in the area behind the back door to the church as during the week it is reserved for safe Day Care access to the playground.

Also if you are visiting the church during the week when Day Care is in session do not let another person in the door with you. They will either use the code for entrance they have been given as a Day Care parent or staff member, or may ring the buzzer at the door by the office for someone in the church office or Day Care, who is expecting them to let them in.

Thank you. We know most of you are aware of this; the reminder helps us all preserve the security of the church and our Day Care children.

Sneak Preview of Our Town: Big Valley on Tuesday August 29th at 7:00 pm [at Kish Innovation Center](#) in Reedsville, PA. Please note, you do not need to RSVP to attend, but nevertheless, it would be great to know if you are coming

Come early at 6:30pm for a tour of [Kish Innovation Center](#) with our friend Carolyn Donaldson

Enjoy some tasty popcorn, snacks and beverages provided by Kish Bank as you watch the Premiere at 7:00pm

Thursday September 7th Our Town: Big Valley Premiere! Broadcast on Public Television

WPSU is seeking Phone volunteers for this viewing.

Volunteers will answer phones from Our Town Big Valley supporters. They will have an easy, scripted form to follow and fill out for each caller. The Volunteer Coordinator for the evening will train everyone on what to expect. It's easy & rewarding and I hope you will join us!

VOLUNTEERS: Please arrive by 7:30 pm so you can enjoy food from Reedsville Creamery and Hostetler's Country Market and cold soda while we hold a brief training session.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Thank you to everyone who donated supplies and back packs. School begins on Wednesday, and your donations will help families who cannot readily afford these needed items for their children.

LOOKING AHEAD

Monday, September 4 ~ Labor Day, Office and Daycare closed
Thursday, September 7 ~ 9:30am Knotting resumes in the blue room
Thursday, September 14 ~ 6:30pm Council meeting
Sunday, September 24 ~ Adult SS class resumes in the blue room
Sunday, October 1 ~ Blanket Sunday

January 1 thru August 23, 2023

Last week's attendance ~ 46 Offering ~ \$2,086.00

St. John's ~ Income \$168,965.87 Expense \$ 177,186.44

Net Income \$ - 8,220.57*

Daycare ~ Income \$ 208,433.00 Expense \$ 223,507.93

Net Income - \$15,074.93*

* June was a 3-pay period month