

St. John Evangelical Lutheran Church
229 South Broad Street
Jersey Shore, PA 17740
570-398-1676

Sunday, August 28, 2022
12th Sunday after Pentecost



Introduction to the day

Invited and inviting—that is the nature of the church. By God’s grace in holy baptism we have a place at Christ’s banquet table. When, by the power of that same Spirit, humility and mutual love continue among us, the church can be more inviting still.

SHARING OUR JOYS AND CONCERNS

Prelude

GATHERING

The Holy Spirit calls us together as the people of God.

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

The assembly stands. All may make the sign of the cross, the sign that is marked at baptism, as the presiding minister begins.

Blessed be the holy Trinity, † one God,
whose steadfast love endures forever.

Amen.

Let us confess our sin in the presence of God and of one another.

Silence is kept for reflection.

Merciful God,

**we confess that we have not followed your path
but have chosen our own way.**

**Instead of putting others before ourselves,
we long to take the best seats at the table.**

**When met by those in need,
we have too often passed by on the other side.**

Set us again on the path of life.

**Save us from ourselves
and free us to love our neighbors.**

Hear the good news!

God does not deal with us according to our sins
but delights in granting pardon and mercy.
In the name of † Jesus Christ, your sins are forgiven.
You are free to love as God loves. **Amen.**

GATHERING SONG: *All Who Hunger, Gather Gladly 461*

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.

HYMN OF PRAISE: *Glory to God in the Highest (p.139 towards front of hymnal)*

PRAYER OF THE DAY

P: Let us pray.

**O God, you resist those who are proud and give grace to those who are
humble. Give us the humility of your Son, that we may embody the generosity
of Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.**

Amen.

The assembly is seated.

WORD

God speaks to us in scripture reading, preaching, and song.

L: A reading from Proverbs

FIRST READING: Proverbs 25:6-7

*The book of Proverbs is part of a collection of writings known as wisdom
literature. Wisdom literature gave directions to Israel's leaders and people for the
conduct of daily life. Today's reading is about humility.*

⁶Do not put yourself forward in the king's presence
or stand in the place of the great;

⁷for it is better to be told, "Come up here,"
than to be put lower in the presence of a noble.

L: The word of the Lord.

C: Thanks be to God.

L: Let us read the Psalm responsively by verse.

PSALM: Psalm 112

¹Hallelujah! Happy are they who fear the LORD
and have great delight in God's commandments!

²**Their descendants will be mighty in the land;
the generation of the upright will be blessed.**

³Wealth and riches will be in their house,
and their righteousness will last forever.

⁴**Light shines in the darkness for the upright;
the righteous are merciful and full of compassion.**

⁵It is good for them to be generous in lending
and to manage their affairs with justice.

⁶**For they will never be shaken;
the righteous will be kept in everlasting remembrance.**

⁷They will not be afraid of any evil rumors;
their heart is steadfast, trusting in the LORD.

⁸**Their heart is established and will not shrink,
until they see their desire upon their enemies.**

⁹They have given freely to the poor, and their righteousness stands fast forever;
they will hold up their head with honor.

¹⁰**The wicked will see it and be angry; they will gnash their teeth and pine
away; the desires of the wicked will perish.**

L: A reading from Hebrews.

SECOND READING: Hebrews 13:1-8, 15-16

The conclusion of the letter to the Hebrews contains suggestions for the conduct of a holy life, all of which are shaped by God's love toward us in Jesus Christ.

¹Let mutual love continue. ²Do not neglect to show hospitality to strangers, for by doing that some have entertained angels without knowing it. ³Remember those who are in prison, as though you were in prison with them; those who are being tortured, as though you yourselves were being tortured. ⁴Let marriage be held in honor by all, and let the marriage bed be kept undefiled; for God will judge fornicators and adulterers. ⁵Keep your lives free from the love of money, and be content with what you have; for he has said, "I will never leave you or forsake you." ⁶So we can say with confidence,

"The Lord is my helper;
I will not be afraid.

What can anyone do to me?"

⁷Remember your leaders, those who spoke the word of God to you; consider the outcome of their way of life, and imitate their faith. ⁸Jesus Christ is the same

yesterday and today and forever. ¹⁵Through him, then, let us continually offer a sacrifice of praise to God, that is, the fruit of lips that confess his name. ¹⁶Do not neglect to do good and to share what you have, for such sacrifices are pleasing to God.

L: The word of the Lord.

C: Thanks be to God.

The assembly stands.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION p.142

Alleluia Lord to whom shall we go?

You have the words of eternal life. Alleluia, Alleluia.

P: The holy gospel according to Luke.

C: Glory to you, O Lord.

GOSPEL: Luke 14:1, 7-14

Jesus observes guests jockeying for position at the table. He uses the opportunity to teach his hearers to choose humility rather than self-exaltation. Jesus also makes an appeal for hosts to imitate God's gracious hospitality to those in need.

¹On one occasion when Jesus was going to the house of a leader of the Pharisees to eat a meal on the sabbath, they were watching him closely.

⁷When he noticed how the guests chose the places of honor, he told them a parable. ⁸“When you are invited by someone to a wedding banquet, do not sit down at the place of honor, in case someone more distinguished than you has been invited by your host; ⁹and the host who invited both of you may come and say to you, ‘Give this person your place,’ and then in disgrace you would start to take the lowest place. ¹⁰But when you are invited, go and sit down at the lowest place, so that when your host comes, he may say to you, ‘Friend, move up higher’; then you will be honored in the presence of all who sit at the table with you. ¹¹For all who exalt themselves will be humbled, and those who humble themselves will be exalted.”

¹²He said also to the one who had invited him, “When you give a luncheon or a dinner, do not invite your friends or your brothers or your relatives or rich neighbors, in case they may invite you in return, and you would be repaid. ¹³But when you give a banquet, invite the poor, the crippled, the lame, and the blind. ¹⁴And you will be blessed, because they cannot repay you, for you will be repaid at the resurrection of the righteous.”

P: The gospel of the Lord.

C: Praise to you, O Christ.

The assembly is seated.

SERMON

HYMN OF THE DAY: *Come to the Table 481*

APOSTLES CREED (*p. 105 at the beginning of the hymnal*)

PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

A: Trusting in God's extraordinary love, let us come near to the Holy One in prayer.

A brief silence.

For the church and its leaders, we pray. Uphold all deacons, pastors, and bishops who serve and teach your people (*national, synodical, and local leaders may be named*). Awaken in your church a spirit of invitation that reaches ever outward. Merciful God,

C: receive our prayer.

A: For the well-being of creation and its inhabitants, we pray. Stir in us reverent awe for the beauty of the natural world, for oceans and lakes, rivers and streams, forests and deserts (*local places may be named*). Merciful God,

C: receive our prayer.

A: For the nations and peoples of the world, we pray. Sustain the efforts of those who pursue justice and equity for all. Defend and accompany all immigrants and refugees and all who are persecuted for their ethnic origin or religious beliefs. Merciful God,

C: receive our prayer.

A: For all who suffer in body, mind, or spirit, we pray. Be present with those who live in isolation or fear, especially those who are incarcerated or detained. Comfort all who are sick or grieving (*especially*). Merciful God,

C: receive our prayer.

A: For this congregation and its ministries, we pray. Prepare children, teachers, and youth ministry directors for a new year of learning. Embolden our witness to invite others to the table. Merciful God,

C: receive our prayer.

A: For the ministry, Heavenly Father, we give thanks for Lutheran Global Health Volunteers. Help them to reflect the values of the Church and to respect the faith and standards of the people they serve. Merciful God,

C: receive our prayer.

Here other intercessions may be offered.

A: For all the saints who confessed God's name (*especially Augustine, Bishop of Hippo, and Moses the Black*), we give thanks. May we cling to the promise of our risen Savior, Jesus Christ, the same yesterday, today, and forever. Merciful God,

C: receive our prayer.

P: Receive the prayers of your children, merciful God, and hold us forever in your steadfast love; through Jesus Christ, our holy Wisdom.

Amen.

Responding in Love

Our Offerings *This is our response to God's grace.*

The assembly stands.

OFFERTORY

Create in me a clean heart, O God, and renew a right spirit with me.

Cast me not away from your presence and take not your Holy Spirit from me.

Restore to me the joy of your salvation, and uphold me with your free Spirit.

OFFERING PRAYER

A: God of abundance:

you have set before us a plentiful harvest.

As we feast on your goodness,

strengthen us to labor in your field,

and equip us to bear fruit for the good of all,

in the name of Jesus. **Amen.**

GREAT THANKSGIVING P.144 (*in the beginning of the hymnal*)

Dialogue

Preface by the Pastor

Holy Holy Holy

THANKSGIVING AT THE TABLE

Words of Institution

Blessed are you, Lord of heaven and earth.

In mercy for our fallen world

you gave your only Son,

that all those who believe in him

should not perish, but have eternal life.

We give thanks to you

for the salvation you have prepared

for us through Jesus Christ.

Send now your Holy Spirit into our hearts,

that we may receive our Lord with a living faith

as he comes to us in his holy supper.

C: Amen. Come, Lord Jesus.

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 145 (*in the beginning of the hymnal*)

INVITATION TO COMMUNION

P: In Christ's presence there is fullness of joy.
Come to the banquet.

COMMUNION

When giving the bread and cup, the communion ministers say

The body of Christ, given for you.

The blood of Christ, shed for you.

and each person may respond **Amen.**

Communion Song *Lamb of God You Take Away p.146*

SONG AFTER COMMUNION *Jesus, Remember Me*

Jesus, remember me when you come into your kingdom.

Jesus, remember me when you come into your kingdom.

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

A: Life-giving God,
through this meal you have bandaged our wounds and fed us with your mercy.
Now send us forth to live for others, both friend and stranger,
that all may come to know your love.
This we pray in the name of Jesus. **Amen.**

SENDING

God blesses us and sends us in mission to the world.

BLESSING

The God of peace, Father, ☩ Son, and Holy Spirit,
bless you, comfort you,
and show you the path of life
this day and always. **Amen.**

SENDING SONG: *I Love to Tell the Story 661*

DISMISSAL

P: Go in peace. Love your neighbor.

C: Thanks be to God.

Announcements

We welcome our visitors and ask that you sign a Visitor Attendance and Holy Communion Card that is located in the pew rack. We ask that cards be returned via the offering plate during Communion. We offer two choices for Holy Communion, wine or grape juice. Those worshipers desiring grape juice are asked at the communion rail to place their right hand over their heart after receiving “The Body of Christ.”

Remember in prayer: Rowan Aldridge, Dave Barner, Agnes Cryder, Sarah Davidson, Don Delaney, Mary Ellen Dougherty, Charlie Dunne, Joanne Fisher, Fred Hoffer, Barbara Hoffman, Jere Hoy, Linda Lehman, Mick Miller, David Mitchell, Mary Lynn Overdorf, Penny Parks-Dean, Terri Shank, the Snyder family, and all of our shut-ins.

We also remember in prayer Family Promise; Bishop Eaton, our Presiding Bishop; and Bishop Collins, Bishop of the Upper Susquehanna Synod soon retiring and Bishop Elect Rev. Craig A. Miller; for our Companion Synod in Liberia and Ansbach-Wurzburg, Germany; and we pray for peace in Ukraine and an end to war. We also pray for rain to renew the earth and all creation, including our crops.

We pray for the safety of our military troops around the world including Mark Baier, Isaac Boring, Jake Cordrey, Ben Cramer, Trevor and Nehemiah Eberhart, Patrick Hamlin, Paul Laidacker, Kenny Leitch, Steven Moore, Maddison Myers, Tyler O’Neal, Adam Shaffer, Richie Speicher, Aaron Stabley, Paul St. James, and Jenna White.

Special thanks to this week’s helpers: Lector –Deb Heydrich; Assisting Ministers – Joyce Braucht and Carl Schaefer; Head Usher –Kaye Long ; Teller – Betty Allen ; Bulletin Sponsor – Cozette Stoltzfus.

Next week's helper: Lector – Kathy Brundick; Assisting Ministers—Deb Hydrich and Ronn Brundick; Head Usher –Betty Allen; Teller – Kaye Long; Bulletin Sponsor –Ginger Maffett; Flowers – TBD.

The altar flowers are to the glory of God and in loving memory of our Mom Norma Schaefer in remembrance of her birthday by Mick, Carl, Kathy and family.

The Sanctuary Candle is given in memory of her sister by Myrtle Long.

We celebrate two birthdays of our members: Mary Pepperman turned 98 y.o. on 7/23. Send cards to 1101 Michael Street, Jersey Shore PA 17740.

Agnes Cryder will turn 96 y.o. on 9/12. Send cards to 201 S Broad St., Jersey Shore PA 17740

Elsie Parks has returned to Nippenose. Her address is Nippenose Valley Village Room 21, 7190 South State Rt 44, Williamsport, PA 17702.

The Lutheran Church Women's Prayer Chain is a vital ministry of St. John Lutheran. Anyone in need of prayers is asked to contact any of the following persons:

Gloria Ely – 570-873-3597 Sarah Davidson - 570-398-0659 Joyce Braucht - 570-398-2852

Sight and Sound in Lancaster will be airing a live broadcast of **David** on Friday, September 2 at 7:00 p.m. Download the Sight and Sound app on your computer and you can view the play **David** through your computer, Ipad, or connect a cable to your TV to show the play through your TV. Cost is \$24.99

God's Work Our Hands Sunday, September 11

We invite you to assemble personal care kits for Lutheran World Relief. Millions of kits assembled in Lutheran congregations around the world were sent to Poland, Ukraine, Moldova, and many other countries housing refugees from the war in Ukraine. Those kits need replaced with new kits and this is where you can help.

*One light-weight bath-size towel (20" x 40" to 52" x 27"), dark color recommended

*Two or three bath-size bars of soap equaling 8 to 9 oz, any brand, in original wrapping; no mini Or hotel size bars

*One adult-sized toothbrush in its original packaging

*One sturdy comb. There are many different types of hair texture, so no picks or fine-toothed combs; Remove packaging.

*One metal nail clippers (attached file optional), remove packaging.

Look around, you might be able to purchase the above items in bulk to save money.

Do not add other items or leave out any of the items listed. All items should be new and in good condition. Wrap all the items in the towel and secure with ribbon, yarn, or rubber bands. Do not enclose the kit or any of its contents in plastic bags.

Shipping note: LWR's approximate cost to handle and ship one personal care kit overseas is \$2.65 (including the addition of a tube of toothpaste).

Visit lwr.org/kitvideos to watch a video with tips and tricks for assembling Personal Care Kits.

For those of you who are Thrivent Members, apply online for a Thrivent Action Team Grant and use your \$250 grant to buy supplies for your Personal Care Kits.

The plan right now is to have worship on September 11, meet to organize and pack kits, and then eat PIZZA!

“Join-the-Choir” Night is starting Wednesday, August 31 at 6:30 p.m. and running every Wednesday until May 2023.

Bible Study. Pastor Aucker will be leading a new Bible Study on the book of Proverbs this Fall. It is available as a 39 page photo-copyable book. So, if you would like a copy of the study, even if you cannot attend the scheduled classes and want to do a home study, please contact me and I will have a copy made for you. 570-916-1317.

ALTAR FLOWERS: St. John received a letter from Russell's Florist informing us of a price increase for flowers. The rising cost of flowers has led them to the following increases: **Altar Vases: \$50.00** (price subject to change based on types of flowers requested). Payments received by individuals in lieu of church payments will be subjected to Pennsylvania Sales Tax (6%) as instructed by their accountant to remain in compliance with State Sales Tax Laws. These prices will go in effect September 1, 2022.

Beginning September 4, 2022, flowers will be \$50.00. Make your check out to St. John Lutheran Church and put it in with your offering or in an envelope marked FLOWERS and put it in the offering

Changes in Altar Flowers

Sign up on the “new” chart listing who is donating flowers, in glory/honor/memory of, and by which choice the flowers coming:

A person signing up to donate Altar flowers now will have four (4) options

1. Make your check out to St. John Lutheran Church for \$50 and put it in with the offering and have it marked FLOWERS. Contact Karen Aucker and ask her to order the flowers from Russell's. These flowers will be yours to take after the service.

2. Bring in appropriate potted plants or ask Karen Aucker for assistance. After the service, you may be able to pick up your potted plants
3. Purchase your own flowers / arrangements which you take after the service.
4. Donate \$25 to the flower fund and request that the Altar Guild use one of our silk arrangements. These arrangements will remain property of the church.

Christian Education is seeking volunteers to lead Children’s Church once a month. If interested please see Cathy Eisner.

Youth Ministry: The Eisner family is opening their pool to the youth of the church (all ages) at noon today! Food will be provided. They live at 406 E Campbell Lane, Linden.

THIS WEEK’S EVENTS

- Sunday, August 28, 2022 *12th Sunday after Pentecost*
 9:30 a.m. Nave Worship Service
 12:00 p.m. Youth Pool Party at Eisner’s
- Wednesday, August 31, 2022
 10:00 a.m. Trinity Episcopal Worship
 6:30 p.m. Choir rehearsal !!
- Thursday, September 1, 2022
 Pastor starts his **24th year** here at St. John
- Sunday, September 4, 2022 *13th Sunday after Pentecost*
 9:30 a.m. Nave Worship Service

