

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

Sunday, October 2, 2022  
17th Sunday after Pentecost



**CHILDREN'S CHURCH in social room at 9:30 a.m. Please take your child downstairs before worship begins.**

**Introduction to the day**

*A little faith goes a long way is Jesus' point in the gospel. A mustard seed's-worth of faith has miraculous potential. The patience, tenacity, and endurance required for the life of faith are the blessings received in holy baptism, holy communion, and the word read and proclaimed in this assembly. Anticipate them. Receive them with thanksgiving.*

**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,  
who is eager to forgive  
and who loves us beyond our days.

**Amen.**

Dear friends, together let us acknowledge  
our failure to love this world as Jesus does.

*Silence is kept for reflection.*

God of mercy and forgiveness,

**we confess that sin still has a hold on us.**

**We have harmed your good creation.**

**We have failed to do justice,**

**love kindness,**

**and walk humbly with you.**

**Turn us in a new direction.**

**Show us the path that leads to life.  
Be our refuge and strength on the journey,  
through Jesus Christ, our redeemer and friend.  
Amen.**

Beloved of God:  
your sins are forgiven † and you are made whole.  
God points the way to new life in Christ,  
who meets us on the road.  
Journey now in God's abiding love  
through the power of the Holy Spirit.  
**Amen.**

**GATHERING SONG: *God Is Here* 526**

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

**PRAYER OF THE DAY**

P: Let us pray.

**Benevolent, merciful God: When we are empty, fill us. When we are weak in faith, strengthen us. When we are cold in love, warm us, that with fervor we may love our neighbors and serve them for the sake of your Son, 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 Habakkuk

**FIRST READING: Habakkuk 1:1-4; 2:1-4**

*Injustice and violence in the time leading up to the Babylonian exile move this prophet to lament: How can a good and all-powerful God see evil in the world and seemingly remain indifferent? God answers by proclaiming that the righteous will live by faith.*

<sup>1</sup>The oracle that the prophet Habakkuk saw.

<sup>2</sup>O LORD, how long shall I cry for help,  
and you will not listen?  
Or cry to you “Violence!”  
and you will not save?  
<sup>3</sup>Why do you make me see wrongdoing  
and look at trouble?  
Destruction and violence are before me;  
strife and contention arise.  
<sup>4</sup>So the law becomes slack  
and justice never prevails.  
The wicked surround the righteous—  
therefore judgment comes forth perverted.

<sup>2:1</sup>I will stand at my watchpost,  
and station myself on the rampart;  
I will keep watch to see what he will say to me,  
and what he will answer concerning my complaint.  
<sup>2</sup>Then the LORD answered me and said:  
Write the vision;  
make it plain on tablets,  
so that a runner may read it.  
<sup>3</sup>For there is still a vision for the appointed time;  
it speaks of the end, and does not lie.  
If it seems to tarry, wait for it;  
it will surely come, it will not delay.  
<sup>4</sup>Look at the proud!  
Their spirit is not right in them,  
but the righteous live by their faith.

L: The word of the Lord.

**C: Thanks be to God.**

L: Let us read the Psalm responsively by verse.

**PSALM: Psalm 37:1-9**

<sup>1</sup>Do not be provoked by evildoers;  
do not be jealous of those who do wrong.  
<sup>2</sup>**For they shall soon wither like the grass,  
and like the green grass fade away.**  
<sup>3</sup>Put your trust in the LORD and do good;  
dwell in the land and find safe pasture.

<sup>4</sup>**Take delight in the LORD,  
who shall give you your heart's desire.**

<sup>5</sup>Commit your way to the LORD; put your trust in the LORD,  
and see what God will do.

<sup>6</sup>**The LORD will make your vindication as clear as the light  
and the justice of your case like the noonday sun.**

<sup>7</sup>Be still before the LORD and wait patiently.

Do not be provoked by the one who prospers, the one who succeeds in evil schemes.

<sup>8</sup>**Refrain from anger, leave rage alone;  
do not be provoked; it leads only to evil.**

<sup>9</sup>For evildoers shall be cut off,  
but those who hope in the LORD shall possess the land.

L: A reading from Second Timothy

**Second Reading: 2 Timothy 1:1-14**

*This letter written to Timothy is a personal message of encouragement. In the face of hardship and persecution, Timothy is reminded that his faith is a gift of God. He is encouraged to exercise that faith with the help of the Holy Spirit.*

<sup>1</sup>Paul, an apostle of Christ Jesus by the will of God, for the sake of the promise of life that is in Christ Jesus,

<sup>2</sup>To Timothy, my beloved child:

Grace, mercy, and peace from God the Father and Christ Jesus our Lord.

<sup>3</sup>I am grateful to God—whom I worship with a clear conscience, as my ancestors did—when I remember you constantly in my prayers night and day. <sup>4</sup>Recalling your tears, I long to see you so that I may be filled with joy. <sup>5</sup>I am reminded of your sincere faith, a faith that lived first in your grandmother Lois and your mother Eunice and now, I am sure, lives in you. <sup>6</sup>For this reason I remind you to rekindle the gift of God that is within you through the laying on of my hands; <sup>7</sup>for God did not give us a spirit of cowardice, but rather a spirit of power and of love and of self-discipline.

<sup>8</sup>Do not be ashamed, then, of the testimony about our Lord or of me his prisoner, but join with me in suffering for the gospel, relying on the power of God, <sup>9</sup>who saved us and called us with a holy calling, not according to our works but according to his own purpose and grace. This grace was given to us in Christ Jesus before the ages began, <sup>10</sup>but it has now been revealed through the appearing of our Savior Christ Jesus, who abolished death and brought life and immortality to light through the gospel. <sup>11</sup>For this gospel I was appointed a herald and an apostle and a

teacher, <sup>12</sup>and for this reason I suffer as I do. But I am not ashamed, for I know the one in whom I have put my trust, and I am sure that he is able to guard until that day what I have entrusted to him. <sup>13</sup>Hold to the standard of sound teaching that you have heard from me, in the faith and love that are in Christ Jesus. <sup>14</sup>Guard the good treasure entrusted to you, with the help of the Holy Spirit living in us.

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 17:5-10**

*On the way to Jerusalem, Jesus instructs his followers about the power of faith and the duties of discipleship. He calls his disciples to adopt the attitude of servants whose actions are responses to their identity rather than works seeking reward.*

<sup>5</sup>The apostles said to the Lord, “Increase our faith!” <sup>6</sup>The Lord replied, “If you had faith the size of a mustard seed, you could say to this mulberry tree, ‘Be uprooted and planted in the sea,’ and it would obey you.

<sup>7</sup>“Who among you would say to your slave who has just come in from plowing or tending sheep in the field, ‘Come here at once and take your place at the table’? <sup>8</sup>Would you not rather say to him, ‘Prepare supper for me, put on your apron and serve me while I eat and drink; later you may eat and drink’? <sup>9</sup>Do you thank the slave for doing what was commanded? <sup>10</sup>So you also, when you have done all that you were ordered to do, say, ‘We are worthless slaves; we have done only what we ought to have done!’

P: The gospel of the Lord.

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

*The assembly is seated.*

**SERMON**

**HYMN OF THE DAY: *My Faith Looks Up to Thee* 756**

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

## **PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION**

A: As scattered grains of wheat are gathered together into one bread, so let us gather our prayers for the church, those in need, and all of God's good creation.

*A brief silence.*

We pray for your holy church in every place and for those who serve following the example of Christ (*rostered and lay leaders may be named*). Help them to live by faith and walk by the light of your gospel. God of grace,

**C: hear our prayer.**

A: For parts of the world ravaged by natural disaster (*especially*): relieve those affected by floods, wildfires, droughts, earthquakes, tornadoes, and hurricanes. God of grace,

**C: hear our prayer.**

A: For every nation and for those entrusted with authority: grant our leaders self-discipline in all things, and inspire them with love for your people. God of grace,

**C: hear our prayer.**

A: For victims of violence, abuse, and neglect: heal those who have been harmed and protect those who are vulnerable. For all who are sick (*especially*). God of grace,

**C: hear our prayer.**

A: For this and every congregation: rekindle your gifts within your people, and inspire councils, committees, and individuals to plan and work together that all may know your love. God of grace,

**C: hear our prayer.**

A: For this world we live in, torn apart by wars and natural disasters. God of peace, fortify the efforts of Lutheran World Relief as they provide care for people and places devastated by natural and human violence. Bring us to your heavenly kingdom where suffering and death are no more. God of grace,

**C: hear our prayer.**

*Here other intercessions may be offered.*

A: In thanksgiving that you have abolished death, and for the saints who have died (*especially*). Bring us all to eternal life with you. God of grace,

**C: hear our prayer.**

P: Gathered together in the sweet communion of the Holy Spirit, gracious God, we offer these and all our prayers to you; through Jesus Christ, our Savior.

**Amen.**

Responding in Love

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

**CHOIR ANTHEM** *I Know Who Holds Tomorrow*

*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: Gracious God,

in your great love you richly provide for our needs.

Make of these gifts a banquet of blessing,

and make us ready to share with all in need;

through Jesus Christ, who sets a table for all.

**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**

You are indeed holy, almighty and merciful God.

You are most holy, and great is the majesty of your glory.

You so loved the world that you gave your only Son,  
so that everyone who believes in him may not perish but have eternal life.

We give you thanks for his coming into the world to fulfill for us  
your holy will and to accomplish all things for our salvation.

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.

For as often as we eat of this bread and drink from this cup,  
we proclaim the Lord's death until he comes.

**Christ has died. Christ is risen. Christ will come again.**

Remembering, therefore, his salutary command,  
his life-giving passion and death, his glorious resurrection and ascension,  
and the promise of his coming again,  
we give thanks to you, O Lord God Almighty,  
not as we ought but as we are able;  
we ask you mercifully to accept our praise and thanksgiving  
and with your Word and Holy Spirit to bless us, your servants,  
and these your own gifts of bread and wine,  
so that we and all who share in the body and blood of Christ  
may be filled with heavenly blessing and grace,  
and, receiving the forgiveness of sin,  
may be formed to live as your holy people  
and be given our inheritance with all you saints.

To you, O God, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit,  
be all honor and glory in your holy church, now and forever.

**Amen**

**THE LORD'S PRAYER P 145** (*in the beginning of the hymnal*)

**INVITATION TO COMMUNION**

P: Christ invites you to this table.

Come, taste and see.

**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: God of the abundant table,  
you have refreshed our hearts in this meal  
with bread for the journey.  
Give us your grace on the road  
that we might serve our neighbors with joy;  
for the sake of Jesus Christ, our Lord.

**Amen**

## **SENDING**

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

## **BLESSING**

God, who gives life to all things  
and frees us from despair,  
bless you with truth and peace.  
And may the holy Trinity, ☩ one God,  
guide you always in faith, hope, and love.

**Amen.**

**SENDING SONG:** *Savior, Again to Your Dear Name* 534

## **DISMISSAL**

P: Go in peace, with Christ beside you.

**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 & Helen Delaney, Mary Ellen Dougherty, Charlie Dunne, Joanne Fisher, Beth Good, Fred Hoffer, Mick Miller, David Mitchell, Mary Lynn Overdorf, Penny Parks-Dean, the Snyder family, and all of our shut-ins.

We also remember in prayer Family Promise; Presiding Bishop Elizabeth Eaton – ELCA; Bishop Craig A. Miller - USS; for our Companion Synods 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. We also lift up in prayer their families who strive to keep a normalcy in the family and continue on often with added stress.

Special thanks to this week’s helper: Lector – Kathy Brundick; Assisting Ministers—Deb Heydrich and Ron Brundick; Head Usher –Shane Snyder; Teller – Dawn McCloskey; Bulletin Sponsor – Jean Ann Snyder.

Next week’s helpers: Lector –Darlene Bilby; Assisting Ministers –Bill Ely Jr and Ken Dougherty; Head Usher –Shane Snyder; Teller –Dawn McCloskey; Bulletin Sponsor—Jean Ann Snyder; Flowers – Nancy Wolfe.

The altar flowers are to given to the glory of God an in thanks for His gift of our son Shane who is 50 years old today. Happy Birthday! Love Mom and Dad.

The Sanctuary Candle is given in memory of her husband Malcolm by Joyce Hudson.

NEW Address: Beth Good, Celebration Villa of Loyalsock, 2985 Four Mile Drive, Montoursville PA 17754

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

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

**Middle and High School Youth** – We invite you to join us for Youth Quake Jan. 13-15, 2023, in Harrisburg, PA. The 2023 theme is Re-Ignite from 2 Corinthians 5:17, *“Therefore, if anyone is in Christ, the new creation has come. The old has gone, the new is here!”* **Registration deadline is November 1.** Please register with Pastor or Cathy Eisner before November 1 for this Friday-Sunday retreat of band music, speaks, and small groups with youth from across the region.

**CHURCH TREASURER:** Due to the end-of-the year resignation of Scott Mitchell, we are searching for someone to serve as church treasurer. If you are interested, please talk to Pastor, Bill Ely, or Becky Ward.

The Christian Education Committee is happy to announce that **Adult Sunday School classes will resume** meeting again starting on Sunday, October 2nd. The class will be held from 8:30 am – 9:15 am in the Adult Sunday School area and this class is open to everyone. Class materials will be provided to all those who want to participate.

**VOLUNTEERS NEEDED TO RESUME NURSERY.** We are in need of adult and teen volunteers to supervise toddlers/babies in the nursery during church. Please contact Molly Hollick, or Ken Daugherty if you would be willing to help out or have any questions. Our hope is to get enough volunteers to have a monthly rotation cycle.

**Blessing of the Animals.** Pastor Aucker will lead a Blessing of the Animals (dogs, cats, etc.) on Sunday, October 9 at 3:00 p.m., in the parking lot at St. John Lutheran. You are welcomed to bring your pets for a blessing.

**TODAY !** is the last day to order **Apple Dumplings!** They are packed in pairs. Two dumplings for \$7.00. You can pay with the order or at pick up. Checks should be made to Women of St. John. On Thursday, October 6 at 5:39 p.m., help is needed with paring the apples and rolling the dough. Baking the dumplings will begin at 7 a.m. on Friday, October 7. The dumplings that you order will be ready for pick up on Friday, October 7, 9:30 a.m. until noon.

Mark your calendar! The **Annual Christmas Bazaar** will be December 10, 2022 9:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m.

#### THIS WEEK'S EVENTS

Sunday, October 2, 2022

*17th Sunday after Pentecost*

8:30 a.m. Adult Sunday School Class

9:30 a.m. Nave Worship Service.

9:30 a.m. Children's Church

Tuesday, October 4, 2022

6:00 p.m. Bible Study

7:00 p.m. Council Meeting

Wednesday, October 5, 2022

10:00 a.m. Trinity Episcopal Communion

6:30 p.m. Choir rehearsal "Join the Choir Night!"

Thursday, October 6, 2022

5:30 p.m. Apple Dumplings preparation

Friday, October 7, 2022

7:00 a.m. Cooking of dumplings begins

9:30 a.m. – Noon -- Pick up your Apple Dumplings!

Saturday, October 8, 2022

9:00 a.m. Fall Work Day

Sunday, October 9, 2022

*18<sup>th</sup> Sunday after Pentecost*

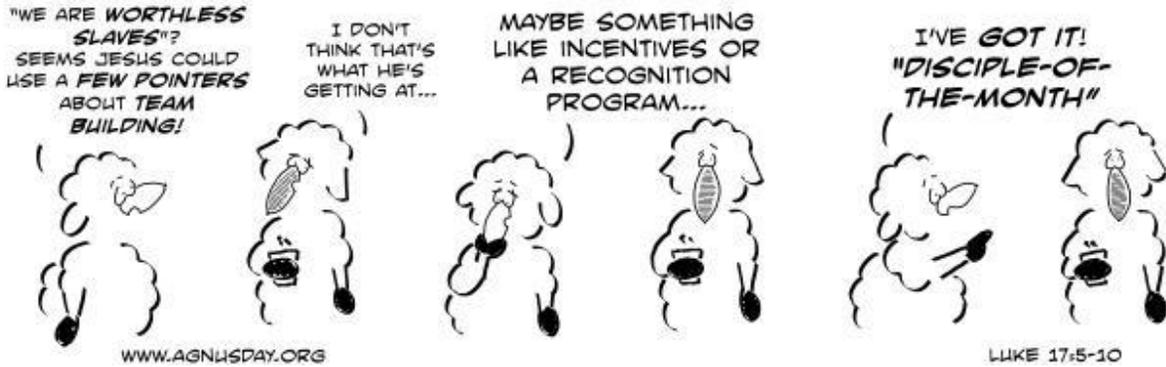
8:30 a.m. Adult Sunday School Class

9:30 a.m. Nave Worship Service.

9:30 a.m. Children's Church

1:00 p.m. CROP Walk, St. Marks Lutheran, Williamsport. Walk 3,6,9 miles

3:00 p.m. Blessing of the Animals



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