

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

Sunday, June 19, 2022

2nd Sunday after Pentecost  
Father's Day



### **Introduction to the day**

*This Sunday's texts paint startling pictures of the horrific nature of sin. The church's repeated celebration of Holy Communion counters that tragic reality in a continued showing forth of the death of Jesus until he comes again. It is a dramatic declaration of "how much God has done for you."*

### **SHARING OUR JOYS AND CONCERNS**

#### **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. Amen.**

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:** *This Is My Father's World 824*

**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:** *Faith of Our Fathers 812*

**PRAYER OF THE DAY**

P: Let us pray.

**O Lord God, we bring before you the cries of a sorrowing world. In your mercy set us free from the chains that bind us, and defend us from everything that is evil, through 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 Isaiah

**FIRST READING:** Isaiah 65:1-9

*The prophet announces God's impatience. The people's self-absorption is idolatry, and images of practices that displease God fill this reading. Like a vintner who crushes the grape to release the wine, God will use Israel's exile to establish a new community of the faithful.*

<sup>1</sup>I was ready to be sought out by those who did not ask,  
to be found by those who did not seek me.

I said, "Here I am, here I am,"  
to a nation that did not call on my name.

<sup>2</sup>I held out my hands all day long  
to a rebellious people,  
who walk in a way that is not good,  
following their own devices;

<sup>3</sup>a people who provoke me  
to my face continually,  
sacrificing in gardens  
and offering incense on bricks;

<sup>4</sup>who sit inside tombs,  
and spend the night in secret places;  
who eat swine's flesh,  
with broth of abominable things in their vessels;

<sup>5</sup>who say, "Keep to yourself,  
do not come near me, for I am too holy for you."

These are a smoke in my nostrils,  
a fire that burns all day long.

<sup>6</sup>See, it is written before me:

I will not keep silent, but I will repay;  
I will indeed repay into their laps  
<sup>7</sup>their iniquities and their ancestors' iniquities together,  
says the LORD;  
because they offered incense on the mountains  
and reviled me on the hills,  
I will measure into their laps  
full payment for their actions.

<sup>8</sup>Thus says the LORD:

As the wine is found in the cluster,  
and they say, "Do not destroy it,  
for there is a blessing in it,"  
so I will do for my servants' sake,  
and not destroy them all.  
<sup>9</sup>I will bring forth descendants from Jacob,  
and from Judah inheritors of my mountains;  
my chosen shall inherit it,  
and my servants shall settle there.

L: The word of the Lord.

C: **Thanks be to God.**

### **PSALM: 22:19-28**

<sup>19</sup>But you, O LORD, be not far away;  
O my help, hasten to my aid.

<sup>20</sup>**Deliver me from the sword,  
my life from the power of the dog.**

<sup>21</sup>Save me from the lion's mouth!  
From the horns of wild bulls you have rescued me.

<sup>22</sup>**I will declare your name to my people;  
in the midst of the assembly I will praise you.**

<sup>23</sup>You who fear the LORD, give praise! All you of Jacob's line, give glory.  
Stand in awe of the LORD, all you offspring of Israel.

<sup>24</sup>**For the LORD does not despise nor abhor the poor in their poverty; neither is  
the LORD's face hidden from them;  
but when they cry out, the LORD hears them.**

<sup>25</sup>From you comes my praise in the great assembly;  
I will perform my vows in the sight of those who fear the LORD.

<sup>26</sup>**The poor shall eat and be satisfied,  
Let those who seek the LORD give praise! May your hearts live forever!**

<sup>27</sup>All the ends of the earth shall remember and turn to the LORD;  
all the families of nations shall bow before God.

<sup>28</sup>**For dominion belongs to the LORD,  
who rules over the nations.**

L: A reading from Galatians

**Second Reading:** Galatians 3:23-29

*For Paul, baptism is a powerful bond that unites people not only with God but with other believers. Those who call themselves children of God experience a transformation that removes prejudices of race, social class, or gender in favor of true unity in Christ.*

<sup>23</sup>Now before faith came, we were imprisoned and guarded under the law until faith would be revealed. <sup>24</sup>Therefore the law was our disciplinarian until Christ came, so that we might be justified by faith. <sup>25</sup>But now that faith has come, we are no longer subject to a disciplinarian, <sup>26</sup>for in Christ Jesus you are all children of God through faith. <sup>27</sup>As many of you as were baptized into Christ have clothed yourselves with Christ. <sup>28</sup>There is no longer Jew or Greek, there is no longer slave or free, there is no longer male and female; for all of you are one in Christ Jesus. <sup>29</sup>And if you belong to Christ, then you are Abraham's offspring, heirs according to the promise.

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 8:26-39

*Jesus' mission includes foreigners and his authority extends to the casting out of demons. Some who witness Jesus' work are seized with confusion and fear, but the man who was healed is commissioned to give testimony to God's mercy and power.*

<sup>26</sup>Then [Jesus and his disciples] arrived at the country of the Gerasenes, which is opposite Galilee. <sup>27</sup>As he stepped out on land, a man of the city who had demons met him. For a long time he had worn no clothes, and he did not live in a house but in the tombs. <sup>28</sup>When he saw Jesus, he fell down before him and shouted at the top of his voice, "What have you to do with me, Jesus, Son of the Most High God? I beg you, do not torment me"—<sup>29</sup>for Jesus had commanded the unclean spirit to come out of the man. (For many times it had seized him; he was kept under guard and bound with chains and shackles, but he would break the bonds and be driven by the demon into the wilds.) <sup>30</sup>Jesus then asked him, "What is your name?" He said, "Legion"; for many demons had entered him. <sup>31</sup>They begged him not to order them to go back into the abyss.

<sup>32</sup>Now there on the hillside a large herd of swine was feeding; and the demons begged Jesus to let them enter these. So he gave them permission. <sup>33</sup>Then the demons came out of the man and entered the swine, and the herd rushed down the steep bank into the lake and was drowned.

<sup>34</sup>When the swineherds saw what had happened, they ran off and told it in the city and in the country. <sup>35</sup>Then people came out to see what had happened, and when they came to Jesus, they found the man from whom the demons had gone sitting at the feet of Jesus, clothed and in his right mind. And they were afraid. <sup>36</sup>Those who had seen it told them how the one who had been

possessed by demons had been healed. <sup>37</sup>Then all the people of the surrounding country of the Gerasenes asked Jesus to leave them; for they were seized with great fear. So he got into the boat and returned. <sup>38</sup>The man from whom the demons had gone begged that he might be with him; but Jesus sent him away, saying, <sup>39</sup>“Return to your home, and declare how much God has done for you.” So he went away, proclaiming throughout the city how much Jesus had done for him.

P: The gospel of the Lord.

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

*The assembly is seated.*

## SERMON

**HYMN OF THE DAY: *Praise the One Who Breaks the Darkness* 843**

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

## PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

A: United in Christ and guided by the Spirit, we pray for the church, the creation, and all in need.

*A brief silence.*

Holy God, you hear the cries of those who seek you. Equip your church with evangelists who reveal the continuous call of your outstretched hands and your promises of a home in you. God of grace,

**C: hear our prayer.**

A: You hear the cries of the earth. Restore places where land, air, and waterways have been harmed. Guide us to develop and implement sources of energy and food production that do not destroy the earth. God of grace,

**C: hear our prayer.**

A: You hear the cries of those who are marginalized or cast out. On this Juneteenth observance, guide us continually toward the end of oppression in all its forms, especially white supremacy. Bring true freedom and human flourishing to all your beloved children. God of grace,

**C: hear our prayer.**

A: You hear the cries of those who suffer. Come to the aid of all who are homeless, naked, hungry, and sick (*especially*). Bring peace to any experiencing mental illness, that they can clearly recognize your loving presence. God of grace,

**C: hear our prayer.**

A: You hear the cries of those who celebrate and those who grieve on this Father's Day. Nurture mutual love and tender care in all relationships. Comfort those for whom this day brings sadness or longing. God of grace,

**C: hear our prayer.**

A: You never sleep, God. You are always awake, always watching, always willing the world and its people to turn in the right direction. Today God, we thank you for camp. We thank you for those campers at Camp Mount Luther who are experiencing you in new and exciting ways this summer. May they all feel your goodness, your love, your welcome, your forgiveness, and your generosity. Hear the prayers that are on their minds and ours. (*Pause and let the silence grow.*) God of grace

**C: hear our prayer.**

*Here other intercessions may be offered.*

A: We give thanks for the faithful departed whose lives proclaimed all you had done for them (*especially*). At the last, unite us with them as we make our home in you. God of grace,

**C: hear our prayer.**

P: God of every time and place, in Jesus' name and filled with your Holy Spirit, we entrust these spoken prayers and those in our hearts into your holy keeping.

**C: 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, O God, creator of heaven and earth.

You rescued your covenant people, led them on all their journeys,  
and taught them by the prophets.

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

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.

As often as we eat this bread and drink this cup,  
we proclaim the Lord's death until he comes:

**Christ has died.**

**Christ is risen.**

**Christ will come again.**

Pour out your Holy Spirit in this meal,  
and make us one in this community  
of faith and with your people throughout the world.

Glory and praise to you, O God,  
Author of life, Word made flesh,  
Power of the Most High, now and forever. **Amen.**

**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: *O For a Thousand Tongues to Sing* 886**

**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 the receiving of the offering. We practice “open Communion” here at St. John meaning that all who believe in the “real presence” of Christ are welcomed to receive the Sacrament of Holy 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, Mary Bower, Mike Cervinsky, Agnes Cryder, Don Delaney, Mary Ellen Dougherty, Charlie Dunne, Joanne Fisher, William Greene, Fred Hoffer, Mick Miller, David Mitchell, Mary Lynn Overdorf, the Snyder family, John Truax, and all of our shut-ins; the safety of our military troops around the world (Mark Baier, Isaac Boring, Jake Cordrey, Ben Cramer, Patrick Hamlin, Paul Laidacker, Kenny Leitch, Steven Moore, Maddison Myers, Tyler O’Neal, Adam Shaffer, Richie Speicher, Aaron Stabley, Paul St. James, Jenna White); Family Promise. Bishop Eaton, our Presiding Bishop; and Bishop Collins, Bishop of the Upper Susquehanna Synod. For our Companion Synod in Liberia and Ansbach-Wurzburg, Germany. Pray for Peace in Ukraine and an end to war.

Special thanks to this week’s helpers: Lector –Shane Sndyer; Assisting Ministers –Karen Aucker and Gary Johnson; Head Usher –Deb Heydrich; Teller – Cozette Stoltzfus; Bulletin Sponsor – Cindy Breon.

Next week’s helper: Lector –Deb Heydrich; Assisting Ministers—Joyce Braucht and Carl Schaefer; Head Usher –Deb Heydrich; Teller – Cozette Stoltzfus; Bulletin Sponsor – Cindy Breon; Flowers – Dean and Barb Hoffman

The flowers are given to the glory of God and in loving memory of my dear friend Leila Hiller by Jean Smithbauer.

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

Payments for Sight and Sound “DAVID” February 6 - \$65.00; May 1 - \$65.00 and the final payment June 17 - \$60 Fare includes bus, play, meal, tip for driver and fund raiser for Luke Antolick. The show is August 6, 2022 -- Children 10 and under \$125.00; Adults \$190.00. Joyce Braucht.

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

VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL (VBS) is at St Johns this year! Registration and making name tags will be Sunday, July 17 at 6:00 p.m. We need CHILDREN! Your children, your grandchildren, your nieces and nephews, the neighbor’s child, the neighbor’s grandchildren!



Also needed are teen helpers. Sunday, July 17 – Thursday, July 21 at 6 PM. More information will be posted! So, watch this space!

### THIS WEEK'S EVENTS

|                                      |                                   |
|--------------------------------------|-----------------------------------|
| Sunday, June 19, 2022                | <i>2nd Sunday after Pentecost</i> |
| 9:30 a.m. Nave Worship Service       | <i>Father's Day</i>               |
| Wednesday, June 22, 2022             |                                   |
| 10:00 a.m. Trinity Episcopal Worship |                                   |
| Thursday, June 23, 2022              |                                   |
| 6:30 p.m. VBS planning meeting       |                                   |
| Sunday, June 26, 2022                | <i>3rd Sunday after Pentecost</i> |
| 9:30 a.m. Nave Worship Service       | <i>Land and Seasons</i>           |

Congratulations to this year's recipients of the St. Paul Lutheran Scholarship Fund. Those from St. John Lutheran: Olivia Eisner and Riley Welshans. The St. Paul Lutheran Scholarship Fund was created from the monies that remained after the closing and sale of St. Paul Lutheran on Fourth Street in Williamsport about thirty years ago. Recipients must be active in a Lutheran congregation in Lycoming County and graduate from a High School in Lycoming County.

Congratulations to this years recipients of the Trinity Lutheran Avis Endowment Fund Scholarships: Cheyenne Mitchell, Haley Meixel, Max Ferguson, Olivia Eisner, Riley Welshans, Hannah Wool, Jonathan Cramer, Quinn Green, Cora Stackhouse, Devin Lombardo.

This letter is to thank you for granting me the Trinity Lutheran Avis Endowment Fund Scholarship. I am honored to receive this scholarship of \$1,000 which will help me immensely with the price of my tuition. Your generosity is greatly appreciated, and I look forward to continuing my education with the help of this donation. Thank you again.

Sincerely,  
Cora Stackhouse

