

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

Sunday, January 30, 2022

4th Sunday after Epiphany



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

*“This morning we are led in worship by, Mr. Gary Johnson, an Authorized Lay Worship Leader of the Upper Susquehanna Synod. Authorized Lay Worship Leaders have received extensive training so as to provide worship leadership and preaching, and also have been authorized by the bishop of the synod to preside at the Eucharist in specific situations.*

*The Evangelical Lutheran Church in America (ELCA) is committed to ordained ministry as the primary means for filling the needs of this church for Word and Sacrament, but at this place in the church’s pilgrimage, the church’s inability to provide all congregations with full-time ordained pastoral ministry presents a challenge. On any given Sunday, congregations have needs that cannot be met by available ordained ministers. Therefore, because it is the bishop’s responsibility to meet the Word and Sacrament needs of the congregations in this Synod, synodically authorized lay worship leaders are trained to meet this need. On behalf of the whole church, Bishop Collins is deeply gratified by the ministry of these servants of the Gospel.”*

### **Introduction to the Day**

*The glory of God is often revealed when and where it is least expected. God uses our lips to declare that glory, inexperienced and hesitant though they may be. God uses our love to demonstrate that glory and so urges us to exercise it. God uses Jesus of Nazareth, water and the word, bread and wine, to reveal God’s glory where and when God chooses. Take heed, lest the glory of God slip through our midst unnoticed.*

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

#### **Prelude**

*The assemble stands.*

#### **Gathering**

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

#### **Confession and Forgiveness**

P: Blessed be the holy Trinity, ✚ one God,  
who creates us, redeems us, and calls us by name.

**C: Amen.**

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

*Silence is kept for reflection.*

Most merciful God,

**C: we confess that we have sinned against you  
and your beloved children.**

**We have turned our faces away from your glory  
when it did not appear as we expected.**

**We have rejected your word  
when it made us confront ourselves.**

**We have failed to show hospitality  
to those you called us to welcome.**

**Accept our repentance for the things we have done  
and the things we have left undone.**

**For the sake of Jesus Christ, have mercy on us.**

**Forgive us and lead us, that we may bathe  
in the glory of your Son born among us,  
and reflect your love for all creation. Amen.**

**P: Rejoice in this good news:**

In ✙ Christ Jesus, your sins are forgiven.

You are descendants of the Most High,  
adopted into the household of Christ,  
and inheritors of eternal life.

Live as freed and forgiven children of God.

**Amen.**

**GATHERING SONG: *Christ, Be Our Light 715***

**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: *p. 139 Glory to God in the Highest***

**Prayer of the Day**

P: Let us pray.

**Almighty and ever-living God, increase in us the gifts of faith, hope, and love; and that we  
may obtain what you promise, make us love what you command, through your Son, Jesus  
Christ, our Savior and Lord.**

**Amen.**

*The assembly is seated.*

**Word**

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

### **First Reading: Jeremiah 1:4-10**

*God calls Jeremiah to be a prophet and consecrates him in the womb. Jeremiah's task is to preach God's word amid the difficult political realities of his time, before the Babylonian exile. He is to make God known not only to Judah, but also to the nations.*

<sup>4</sup>Now the word of the LORD came to me saying,

<sup>5</sup>“Before I formed you in the womb I knew you,  
and before you were born I consecrated you;  
I appointed you a prophet to the nations.”

<sup>6</sup>Then I said, “Ah, Lord GOD! Truly I do not know how to speak, for I am only a boy.” <sup>7</sup>But the LORD said to me,

“Do not say, ‘I am only a boy’;  
for you shall go to all to whom I send you,  
and you shall speak whatever I command you.

<sup>8</sup>Do not be afraid of them,  
for I am with you to deliver you,  
says the LORD.”

<sup>9</sup>Then the LORD put out his hand and touched my mouth; and the LORD said to me,  
“Now I have put my words in your mouth.

<sup>10</sup>See, today I appoint you over nations and over kingdoms,  
to pluck up and to pull down,  
to destroy and to overthrow,  
to build and to plant.”

L: The word of the Lord.

C: **Thanks be to God.**

### **Psalm 71:1-6**

<sup>1</sup>In you, O LORD, have I taken refuge;  
let me never be put to shame.

<sup>2</sup>**In your righteousness, deliver me and set me free;  
incline your ear to me and save me.**

<sup>3</sup>Be my strong rock, a castle to keep me safe;  
you are my crag and my stronghold.

<sup>4</sup>**Deliver me, my God, from the hand of the wicked,  
from the clutches of the evildoer and the oppressor.**

<sup>5</sup>For you are my hope, O Lord GOD,  
my confidence since I was young.

<sup>6</sup>**I have been sustained by you ever since I was born; from my mother's womb you  
have been my strength;  
my praise shall be always of you.**

### **Second Reading: 1 Corinthians 13:1-13**

*Christians in Corinth prided themselves on their spiritual gifts. Paul reminds them that God gives us many gifts through the Holy Spirit, but the purpose behind all of them is love, the kind of love that God showed us in Jesus Christ.*

<sup>1</sup>If I speak in the tongues of mortals and of angels, but do not have love, I am a noisy gong or a clanging cymbal. <sup>2</sup>And if I have prophetic powers, and understand all mysteries and all knowledge, and if I have all faith, so as to remove mountains, but do not have love, I am nothing. <sup>3</sup>If I give away all my possessions, and if I hand over my body so that I may boast, but do not have love, I gain nothing.

<sup>4</sup>Love is patient; love is kind; love is not envious or boastful or arrogant <sup>5</sup>or rude. It does not insist on its own way; it is not irritable or resentful; <sup>6</sup>it does not rejoice in wrongdoing, but rejoices in the truth. <sup>7</sup>It bears all things, believes all things, hopes all things, endures all things.

<sup>8</sup>Love never ends. But as for prophecies, they will come to an end; as for tongues, they will cease; as for knowledge, it will come to an end. <sup>9</sup>For we know only in part, and we prophesy only in part; <sup>10</sup>but when the complete comes, the partial will come to an end. <sup>11</sup>When I was a child, I spoke like a child, I thought like a child, I reasoned like a child; when I became an adult, I put an end to childish ways. <sup>12</sup>For now we see in a mirror, dimly, but then we will see face to face. Now I know only in part; then I will know fully, even as I have been fully known. <sup>13</sup>And now faith, hope, and love abide, these three; and the greatest of these is love.

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 4:21-30**

*People in Jesus' hometown are initially pleased when he says that God will free the oppressed. Their pleasure turns to rage when he reminds them that God's prophetic mission typically pushes beyond human boundaries so that mercy and healing are extended to those regarded as outsiders.*

<sup>21</sup>Then [Jesus] began to say to [all in the synagogue in Nazareth,] "Today this scripture has been fulfilled in your hearing." <sup>22</sup>All spoke well of him and were amazed at the gracious words that came from his mouth. They said, "Is not this Joseph's son?" <sup>23</sup>He said to them, "Doubtless you will quote to me this proverb, 'Doctor, cure yourself!' And you will say, 'Do here also in your hometown the things that we have heard you did at Capernaum.' " <sup>24</sup>And he said, "Truly I tell you, no prophet is accepted in the prophet's hometown. <sup>25</sup>But the truth is, there were many widows in Israel in the time of Elijah, when the heaven was shut up three years and six months, and there was a severe famine over all the land; <sup>26</sup>yet Elijah was sent to none of them except to a widow at Zarephath in Sidon. <sup>27</sup>There were also many lepers in Israel in the time of the prophet Elisha, and none of them was cleansed except Naaman the Syrian." <sup>28</sup>When they heard this, all in the synagogue were filled with rage. <sup>29</sup>They got up, drove him out of the town, and led him to the brow of the hill on which their town was built, so that they might hurl him off the cliff. <sup>30</sup>But he passed through the midst of them and went on his way.

P: The gospel of the Lord.  
C: Praise to you, O Christ.

*The assembly is seated.*

**Sermon**

*The assembly stands.*

**Hymn of the Day: *Although I Speak with Angels Tongue* 644**

**APOSTLES CREED**

**I believe in God, the Father almighty,  
creator of heaven and earth.  
I believe in Jesus Christ, God's only Son, our Lord,  
who was conceived by the Holy Spirit,  
born of the virgin Mary,  
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,  
he is seated at the right hand of the Father,  
and he will come 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**

**Prayers of Intercession**

A: The Spirit of the Lord is poured out upon us in abundance; so we are bold to pray for the church, the world, and all that God has made.

*A brief silence.*

Guide your church in the ways of faith, hope, and love. Cultivate ministries and communities of compassion that bear witness to your enduring presence among us. God of grace,

**C: hear our prayer.**

A: Teach us to live in humility on the earth. Curb arrogance that leads to destruction of natural resources and disregard for future generations. Inspire the work of scientists who urge us to live in harmony with your creation. God of grace,

**C: hear our prayer.**

A: You are the refuge of all who seek hope and freedom. Accompany immigrants, refugees, and asylum seekers who cross borders to find safety and opportunity. Embolden leaders to draft compassionate policies on behalf of migrants and those who assist them. God of grace,

**C: hear our prayer.**

A: Love bears, believes, hopes, and endures all things. Comfort with your love all who are lonely, fearful, or brokenhearted. Sustain the hope of all those who suffer in body or spirit (*especially*). God of grace,

**C: hear our prayer.**

A: Your grace falls upon young and old alike. Bless the gifts of children in this congregation and in this community. Give us humble hearts to follow their leadership. Inspire us with their laughter, their insight, and their curiosity. God of grace,

**C: hear our prayer.**

A: Merciful God, it is a new year for Camp Mount Luther. We give thanks for their partnership with Lutheran Outdoor Ministry as they strive to create spaces and programs that bring people together to learn and grow deeper in faith. Bless Chad Hershberger and the staff as they prepare for a new season. God of grace,

**C: hear our prayer.**

*Here other intercessions may be offered.*

A: We praise you for those who have gone before us and now see you face to face (*especially*). Abide with us in this mortal life until we rest in the arms of your never ending love. God of grace,

**C: hear our prayer.**

P: Since we have such great hope in your promises, O God, we lift these and all of our prayers to you in confidence and faith; through Jesus Christ our Savior.

**Amen.**

*The assembly is seated.*

### **Responding in Love**

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

#### **Our Offering of Music**

### **CHOIR ANTHEM** *The Gift of Love*

*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: Blessed are you, O God,

Sovereign of the universe.

You offer us new beginnings and guide us on our journey.

Lead us to your table,

nourish us with this heavenly food, and prepare us to carry your love to a hungry world, in the name of Christ our light.

**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**

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.”

Pour out upon us the Spirit of your love, O Lord,  
and unite the wills of all who share this heavenly food,  
the body and blood of Jesus Christ our Lord;  
to whom, with you and the Holy Spirit, be all glory and honor, now and forever.

**Amen.**

**Lord's Prayer**

**Our Father, who art in heaven,  
hallowed be thy name,  
thy kingdom come,  
thy will be done,  
on earth as it is in heaven.  
Give us this day our daily bread;  
and forgive us our trespasses,  
as we forgive those  
who trespass against us;  
and lead us not into temptation,  
but deliver us from evil.  
For thine is the kingdom,  
and the power, and the glory,  
forever and ever. Amen.**

**Invitation to Communion**

P: Come to God's table.  
There is a place for you and enough for all.

*The assembly is seated.*

### **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.*

*The assembly stands.*

### **Prayer after Communion**

A: We give you thanks, gracious God,  
for we have feasted on the abundance of your house.  
Send us to bring good news  
and to proclaim your favor to all,  
strengthened with the richness of your grace  
in your Son, Jesus Christ.  
**Amen.**

### **Sending**

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

### **Blessing**

P: God, who leads you in pathways of righteousness,  
who rejoices over you,  
and who calls you by name,  
✠ bless your going out and your coming in,  
today and forever.  
**Amen.**

**Sending Song:** *O God, Who Gives Us Life* (insert from ACS 1086)

### **Dismissal**

P: Go with Christ into a weary world.  
Share the good news.  
**C: Thanks be to God.**

## O God, Who Gives Us Life

1 O God, who gives us life and breath, who shapes us in the womb,  
2 O God, who calls your peo - ple out to ven - ture and to dare,  
3 O God of cov - e - nant and law, re - vealed in cloud and flame,

who guards our lives from birth to death, then leads us from the tomb:  
to plumb the bleak a - byss of doubt and find you e - ven there:  
your might - y deeds e - voke our awe; we dare not speak your name.

de - liv - er us from fears that kill the life we have from you,  
when we de - spair in wan - der - ing through wastes of emp - ty lies,  
Yet we by faith are drawn to you and will your peo - ple prove,

Help us to know your Spir - it still is mak - ing all things new.  
re - fresh us with the liv - ing spring of hope that nev - er dies.  
as on our hearts you write a - new the cov - e - nant of love.

Text: Carl P. Daw Jr., b. 1944

Music: NOEL, English melody; arr. Arthur S. Sullivan, 1842-1900

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### *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, Mike Cervinsky, Agnes Cryder, Don Delaney, Mary Ellen Dougherty, Charlie Dunne, Fred Hoffer, David Mitchell, Bob and Phyllis Moriarity, Judy Saar, Shane Snyder. and 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; and for the New Love Center as it seeks to build a new food hub.

Special thanks to today’s helpers: Lector –Pam Wehler; Assisting Ministers –Karen Aucker, Dawn McCloskey; Head Usher – Bob Wehler; Teller Lon Myers; Bulletin Sponsor – Cynthia Breon; Children’s Church – Cathy Eismen.

Next week’s helpers: Lector – Kathey Brundick; Assisting Ministers – Deb Heydrich and Ron Bundick; Head Usher – Gina Johnson; Teller – Deb Heydrich; Bulletin Sponsor – Tonya Welshans; Children’s Church – Pam Wehler; Flowers – Gina and Gary Johnson.

The Sanctuary Candle is sponsored in memory of Henry and Collen Hauser by Ginger Maffett.

The altar flowers are given in memory of loved ones by Cozette Stoltzfus.

**Still Needed!** – The **2022 Flower calendar** has been posted on the upstairs bulletin board **and is quite empty!** The Sanctuary Candle sign-up sheet and the **Bulletin Sponsors sheets** are in the downstairs hallway. Your contributions to these items for worship are appreciated.

Applications for Trinity Endowment Fund **Scholarships** are now being accepted until March 1, 2022. Applications are available on the church website or in the office. Applicants must have completed one full semester to be eligible. Requirements are printed on the application. It is open to all members of St John. Non-members may apply with a member in good standing as a sponsor.

**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 - 570-398-28

**High School Youth!** Join us Sunday afternoon at **NOON** at the church as we gather to go ice skating in Sunbury 1:00--3:30!!.

**Brunch for the Congregation.** Each year the youth of St. John provide a dinner for the members of St. John in appreciation for the financial support we receive. **This year it will be held on Sunday, February 6, after worship.** All available youth are needed.

We are looking for volunteers to lead the Elementary and Middle School age youth groups. Please contact Cathy Eisner if you are willing to lead either of those two age groups. We are seeking parents of children in those age groups who would be willing to volunteer to lead them on Christian activities, studies, and service.

**The Annual Congregational Meeting** is Sunday February 6. It will be a Brunch this year after the morning service. Please plan on attending for fellowship and to participate in the basic business of the congregation

Pastor and Mrs. Aucker are away on vacation until next Saturday evening. Pastoral assistance will be given by Pastor Shumway (570) 295-5958.

♥**Love for Luke**♥ **Fundraiser.** Orders are being taken after Church today and next Sunday for Weis Gift Cards. Proceeds from these orders will go to the Luke Antolick Fund. Pick up and payment (check payable to St. John or cash) after Church on February 13th. These gift cards can be used at Weis Markets to buy groceries or in the pharmacy. Another option is to further the love by giving a gift card to someone in need or purchasing items for the Love Center. For every \$100.00 purchase Luke's Fund will get \$5.00. Our goal is to sell \$10,000.00 in gift cards so we can give Luke's Fund \$500.00. Joyce Braucht, Deb Heydrich, Lynette Yost and Kim Myers will be downstairs in the Adult Sunday School room after Church to take orders and answer any questions. Thank you for your support!

### ***THIS WEEK'S EVENTS***

Sunday, January 30, 2022

9:30 a.m. Sunday School Starts

9:30 a.m. Nave Worship Service

*4th Sunday of Epiphany*

Wednesday, February 2, 2022

6:30 p.m. Choir Rehearsal

Sunday, February 6, 2022

9:30 a.m. Sunday School Starts

9:30 a.m. Nave Worship Service

*Anniversary of Pastor Ordination 29 years!!*

*5th Sunday after Epiphany*

**Congregation Meeting and Brunch to follow**

♥Love for Luke♥ Fundraiser Orders

2:00 pm Catechism

