

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

Sunday, July 17, 2022

6th Sunday after Pentecost



Introduction to the day

Perhaps the church, at its best, is “all ears.” God urges the faithful, again and again, to “listen up!”—to heed the word that gives life. So it was with Abraham and Sarah, Mary and Martha, and the early church at Colossae. So it is today as we join the assembly to hear the word of God, the word of life.

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.**

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: *When Morning Gilds the Sky* 853

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: *You Are the Way* 758

PRAYER OF THE DAY

P: Let us pray.

Eternal God, you draw near to us in Christ, and you make yourself our guest. Amid the cares of our lives, make us attentive to your presence, that we may treasure your word above all else, 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 Genesis

FIRST READING: Genesis 18:1-10a

The LORD visits Abraham and Sarah to tell them that the long-awaited promise of the birth of a child will be fulfilled for them in their old age.

¹The LORD appeared to Abraham by the oaks of Mamre, as he sat at the entrance of his tent in the heat of the day. ²He looked up and saw three men standing near him. When he saw them, he ran from the tent entrance to meet them, and bowed down to the ground. ³He said, "My lord, if I find favor with you, do not pass by your servant. ⁴Let a little water be brought, and wash your feet, and rest yourselves under the tree. ⁵Let me bring a little bread, that you may refresh yourselves, and after that you may pass on—since you have come to your servant." So they said, "Do as you have said." ⁶And Abraham hastened into the tent to Sarah, and said, "Make ready quickly three measures of choice flour, knead it, and make cakes." ⁷Abraham ran to the herd, and took a calf, tender and good, and gave it to the servant, who hastened to prepare it. ⁸Then he took curds and milk and the calf that he had prepared, and set it before them; and he stood by them under the tree while they ate.

⁹They said to him, "Where is your wife Sarah?" And he said, "There, in the tent." ^{10a}Then one said, "I will surely return to you in due season, and your wife Sarah shall have a son."

L: The word of the Lord.

C: Thanks be to God.

Let us read the Psalm responsively by verse.

PSALM: 15

¹LORD, who may dwell in your tabernacle?

Who may abide upon your holy hill?

²**Those who lead a blameless life and do what is right,
who speak the truth from their heart;**

³they do not slander with the tongue, they do no evil to their friends;
they do not cast discredit upon a neighbor.

⁴**In their sight the wicked are rejected, but they honor those who fear the LORD.
They have sworn upon their health and do not take back their word.**

⁵They do not give their money in hope of gain, nor do they take bribes against the innocent.
Those who do these things shall never be overthrown.

L: A reading from Colossians

Second Reading: Colossians 1:15-28

This letter offers a mystical teaching, that the great mystery of God is “Christ in you.” Because Christ is present in the church, Christians share in his life, suffering, and glory.

¹⁵[Christ Jesus] is the image of the invisible God, the firstborn of all creation; ¹⁶for in him all things in heaven and on earth were created, things visible and invisible, whether thrones or dominions or rulers or powers—all things have been created through him and for him. ¹⁷He himself is before all things, and in him all things hold together. ¹⁸He is the head of the body, the church; he is the beginning, the firstborn from the dead, so that he might come to have first place in everything. ¹⁹For in him all the fullness of God was pleased to dwell, ²⁰and through him God was pleased to reconcile to himself all things, whether on earth or in heaven, by making peace through the blood of his cross.

²¹And you who were once estranged and hostile in mind, doing evil deeds, ²²he has now reconciled in his fleshly body through death, so as to present you holy and blameless and irreproachable before him—²³provided that you continue securely established and steadfast in the faith, without shifting from the hope promised by the gospel that you heard, which has been proclaimed to every creature under heaven. I, Paul, became a servant of this gospel.

²⁴I am now rejoicing in my sufferings for your sake, and in my flesh I am completing what is lacking in Christ’s afflictions for the sake of his body, that is, the church. ²⁵I became its servant according to God’s commission that was given to me for you, to make the word of God fully known, ²⁶the mystery that has been hidden throughout the ages and generations but has now been revealed to his saints. ²⁷To them God chose to make known how great among the Gentiles are the riches of the glory of this mystery, which is Christ in you, the hope of glory. ²⁸It is he whom we proclaim, warning everyone and teaching everyone in all wisdom, so that we may present everyone mature in Christ.

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 St. Luke
C: Glory to you, O Lord.

GOSPEL: Luke 10:38-42

During his visit to the home of Mary and Martha, Jesus reminds Martha that her concern for her many tasks distracts from the one thing that precedes all else: abiding in the presence of God.

³⁸Now as [Jesus and his disciples] went on their way, he entered a certain village, where a woman named Martha welcomed him into her home. ³⁹She had a sister named Mary, who sat at the Lord's feet and listened to what he was saying. ⁴⁰But Martha was distracted by her many tasks; so she came to him and asked, "Lord, do you not care that my sister has left me to do all the work by myself? Tell her then to help me." ⁴¹But the Lord answered her, "Martha, Martha, you are worried and distracted by many things; ⁴²there is need of only one thing. Mary has chosen the better part, which will not be taken away from her."

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

The assembly is seated.

SERMON "It is not about what I do, but what God has done in me."

HYMN OF THE DAY: Day by Day 799

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.

Ever-present God, in Christ you fill all things. As your church gathers to hear your word, share your meal, and receive your blessing, teach us to welcome strangers as we have been welcomed by you. God of grace,

C: hear our prayer.

A: Through Christ you created all things, visible and invisible. Teach humankind to honor and protect all creation, including living things that remain hidden from our eyes such as air, atmosphere, molecules, and microscopic creatures. God of grace,

C: hear our prayer.

A: Through Christ you reconcile all things. Motivate those in power to end enslavement, dehumanization, or brutality of any kind (*in the spirit of Bartolomé de Las Casas, whom we commemorate today*) and to protect and improve the lives of Indigenous peoples. God of grace,

C: hear our prayer.

A: Through Christ you bring peace. Assure all who are worried and distracted by many things of your constant presence. Soothe those suffering in mind, body, or spirit. Sustain all who are afflicted and those who serve as caregivers (*especially*). God of grace,

C: hear our prayer.

A: In Christ you make your word fully known. Inspire this worshiping community (*congregation may be named*) to abide fully in your word as we sit at the feet of Jesus. Bless the ministry of teachers and Bible study leaders. God of grace,

C: hear our prayer.

A: We pray for the campers and staff at Camp Mount Luther. Help the staff to share Christ and plant seeds in the lives of those who come to this place set apart. Open the minds of the children, youth, and adults who attend, so that they can encounter you in new and exciting ways. Help them to experience the beauty of your creation and come back to the congregation, ready to live a life of discipleship and service to you. God of grace

C: hear our prayer

Here other intercessions may be offered.

A: In Christ you brought forth the firstborn from the dead. We give thanks for the saints you have gathered at your table. Gather us with them in your eternal glory. God of grace,

C: hear our prayer.

A: We pray for your gentle rain to come upon our land to replenish the earth with water to grow our crops and flowers and renews the face of the earth. 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.

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

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: *You Servants of God* 825

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, Mary Bower, Agnes Cryder, Sarah Davidson, Don Delaney, Mary Ellen Dougherty, Charlie Dunne, Joanne Fisher, William Greene, Fred Hoffer, Jere Hoy, Mick Miller, David Mitchell, Mary Lynn Overdorf, Elsie Parks, Terri Shank, the Snyder family, John Truax, 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; for our Companion Synod in Liberia and Ansbach-Wurzburg, Germany; and we pray for peace in Ukraine and an end to war.

We pray for the safety of our military troops around the world including Mark Baier, Isaac Boring, Jake Cordrey, Ben Cramer, Patrick and Richard 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 –Shane Snyder; Assisting Ministers – Gary Johnson and Karen Aucker; Head Usher –Dawn McCloskey; Teller – Shane Snyder; Bulletin Sponsor – Darlene Bilby.

Next week's helper: Lector –Deb Heydrich; Assisting Ministers—Joyce Braucht and Carl Schaefer; Head Usher –Dawn McCloskey; Teller – Shane Snyder; Bulletin Sponsor – Darlene Bilby. Flowers—Christine and Dave Barner.

The altar flowers are in loving memory Don Breon and to the glory of God by Cynthia Breon and family.

The Sanctuary Candle is given in memory Bill and Mary Ely by Jim and Lisa Ely.

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! Saturday, August 6. Please be at St John Lutheran church at 6:00 a.m.! The Play is at 11:00 a.m. and then a meal at Yoder's.

VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL (VBS) is at St John this year! Registration and making name tags will be this evening 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!

The annual **St. James Day celebration** will be on Sunday, July 24th following the worship service (usually around noon). St. James invites the members of the congregations of St. John, Garman and Grace to join them. St. James will provide paper goods, fried chicken, and we usually provide water, iced tea or lemonade as the beverages. We also ask that you bring a dish or dessert to share, and your own beverage if you don't want water, tea or lemonade. Please leave a message at the church office (570-398-1676) or tell Pastor Aucker if you are attending **TODAY**.

IN SEARCH OF a specific ELW (red) Hymnal. Dawn McCloskey cannot find her hymnal. In the back cover is a Penn State sticker and in the hymnal were three obituaries, the one of her father's was laminated. If you see this hymnal, please bring it to Dawn or the office or the organ.

Congratulations to Brian McCloskey and Carissia Lamey on the birth of their baby girl Amelia McCloskey on Saturday, July 9, 2022.

THIS WEEK'S EVENTS

Sunday, July 17, 2022

6th Sunday after Pentecost

9:30 a.m. Nave Worship Service

6:00 p.m. ICE CREAM SOCIAL and VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL
registration

Monday, July 18, 2022

6:00p.m.- 8:00 p.m. Vacation Bible School

Tuesday, July 19, 2022

6:00p.m.- 8:00 p.m. Vacation Bible School

Wednesday, July 20, 2022

10:00 a.m. Trinity Episcopal Worship

11:30 a.m. Fellowship at Shore Diner

6:00p.m.- 8:00 p.m. Vacation Bible School

Thursday, July 21

6:00 p.m. closing program with parents for Vacation Bible School

Saturday, July 23, 2022

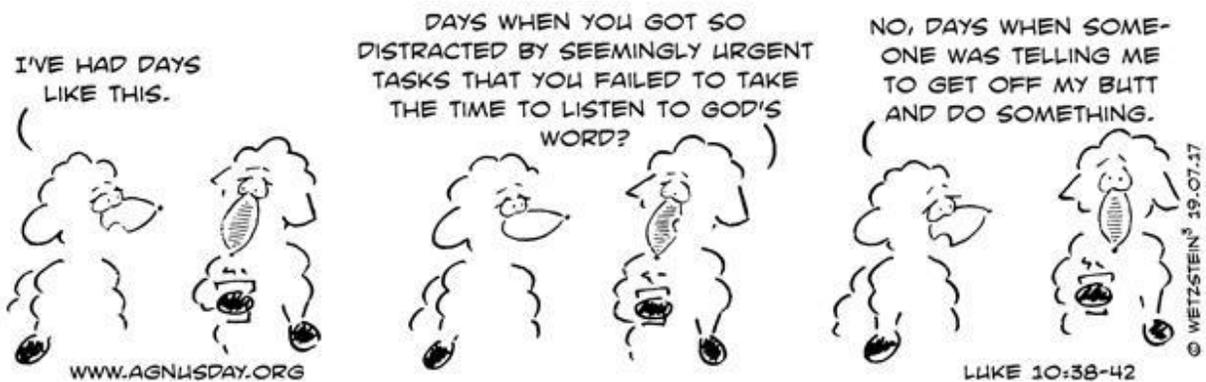
10:30 a.m. Memorial Service in Sanctuary for John Henry Hamilton, Jr.

Sunday, July 24, 2022

7th Sunday after Pentecost

9:30 a.m. Nave Worship Service

12:00 St. James Celebration at St James



I forgive people.

*It doesn't mean I
accept their behavior
or trust them again.*

fb/lovewideopen

*It means I forgive
them for me, so I can
let go and move on
with my life.*

Love Wide Open
the art of holding heart space