

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

Sunday, January 16, 2022
2nd Sunday after Epiphany



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

Introduction to the Day

The Sundays after Epiphany continue to celebrate the revelation of God's glory to us as it was made known to the magi and to those on Jordan's banks at Jesus' baptism—today using wedding imagery. Our God rejoices over God's people as those being married rejoice over one another. By the power of the Spirit there are gifts galore for everyone. In Christ Jesus the best wine is saved for last. Taste and see.

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: *Lift Every Voice and Sing* 841

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.

Lord God, source of every blessing, you showed forth your glory and led many to faith by the works of your Son, who brought gladness and salvation to his people. Transform us by the Spirit of his love, that we may find our life together in him, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.

The assembly is seated.

Word

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

First Reading: Isaiah 62:1-5

The people's return to Judah after the exile was marred by economic and political troubles. Nevertheless, the prophet declares, Jerusalem and Judah will be restored. God will rejoice over Jerusalem as a bridegroom rejoices over the bride, and the people are called to the celebration.

¹For Zion's sake I will not keep silent,
and for Jerusalem's sake I will not rest,
until her vindication shines out like the dawn,
and her salvation like a burning torch.

²The nations shall see your vindication,
and all the kings your glory;
and you shall be called by a new name
that the mouth of the LORD will give.

³You shall be a crown of beauty in the hand of the LORD,
and a royal diadem in the hand of your God.

⁴You shall no more be termed Forsaken,

and your land shall no more be termed Desolate;
but you shall be called My Delight Is in Her,
and your land Married;
for the LORD delights in you,
and your land shall be married.
⁵For as a young man marries a young woman,
so shall your builder marry you,
and as the bridegroom rejoices over the bride,
so shall your God rejoice over you.

L: The word of the Lord.

C: **Thanks be to God.**

Psalm 36:5-10

⁵Your love, O LORD, reaches to the heavens,
and your faithfulness to the clouds.
⁶**Your righteousness is like the strong mountains, your justice like the great deep;
you save humankind and animals, O LORD.**
⁷How priceless is your love, O God!
All people take refuge under the shadow of your wings.
⁸**They feast upon the abundance of your house;
you give them drink from the river of your delights.**
⁹For with you is the well of life,
and in your light we see light.
¹⁰**Continue your lovingkindness to those who know you,
and your favor to those who are true of heart.**

Second Reading: 1 Corinthians 12:1-11

The congregation at Corinth experienced division as people were comparing their spiritual gifts, thinking some to be superior to others. Paul invites this fractured community to trust that God's Holy Spirit has gifted them all perfectly for their mission together.

¹Now concerning spiritual gifts, brothers and sisters, I do not want you to be uninformed. ²You know that when you were pagans, you were enticed and led astray to idols that could not speak. ³Therefore I want you to understand that no one speaking by the Spirit of God ever says "Let Jesus be cursed!" and no one can say "Jesus is Lord" except by the Holy Spirit.

⁴Now there are varieties of gifts, but the same Spirit; ⁵and there are varieties of services, but the same Lord; ⁶and there are varieties of activities, but it is the same God who activates all of them in everyone. ⁷To each is given the manifestation of the Spirit for the common good. ⁸To one is given through the Spirit the utterance of wisdom, and to another the utterance of knowledge according to the same Spirit, ⁹to another faith by the same Spirit, to another gifts of healing by the one Spirit, ¹⁰to another the working of miracles, to another prophecy, to another the discernment of spirits, to another various kinds of tongues, to another the interpretation of tongues. ¹¹All these are activated by one and the same Spirit, who allots to each one individually just as the Spirit chooses.

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 John.

C: Glory to you, O Lord.

Gospel: John 2:1-11

Turning water to wine at the wedding at Cana is described as the first of Jesus' signs. Through many such epiphanies, Jesus reveals that he bears God's creative power and joyful presence into the world.

¹On the third day there was a wedding in Cana of Galilee, and the mother of Jesus was there. ²Jesus and his disciples had also been invited to the wedding. ³When the wine gave out, the mother of Jesus said to him, "They have no wine." ⁴And Jesus said to her, "Woman, what concern is that to you and to me? My hour has not yet come." ⁵His mother said to the servants, "Do whatever he tells you." ⁶Now standing there were six stone water jars for the Jewish rites of purification, each holding twenty or thirty gallons. ⁷Jesus said to them, "Fill the jars with water." And they filled them up to the brim. ⁸He said to them, "Now draw some out, and take it to the chief steward." So they took it. ⁹When the steward tasted the water that had become wine, and did not know where it came from (though the servants who had drawn the water knew), the steward called the bridegroom ¹⁰and said to him, "Everyone serves the good wine first, and then the inferior wine after the guests have become drunk. But you have kept the good wine until now." ¹¹Jesus did this, the first of his signs, in Cana of Galilee, and revealed his glory; and his disciples believed in him.

P: The gospel of the Lord.

C: Praise to you, O Christ.

The assembly is seated.

Sermon

The assembly stands.

Hymn of the Day: Christ Whose Glory Fills the Sky 553

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.

A: By your Spirit, activate within your church gifts of faith, healing, and prophecy. Unite those who profess your name across congregations, denominations, and geographic boundaries. Open our hearts to recognize and celebrate surprising miracles. God of grace,

C: hear our prayer.

A: Your creation reflects your generosity. Bless farmers, migrant farmworkers, orchard-keepers, ranchers, and all who tend the abundance of the land. Protect food and water sources from destruction, that all can eat and drink and be satisfied. God of grace,

C: hear our prayer.

A: By your Spirit, grant wisdom, knowledge, and discernment to those who hold leadership positions at any level. Direct policymakers toward compassionate decisions that build up safe and just communities. Lead all authorities in seeking and serving the common good. God of grace,

C: hear our prayer.

A: As Jesus provided generously in a moment of need, provide generous gifts of healing for those in need this day (*especially*). Provide abundantly for all who are hungry or thirsty, all seeking shelter, and all who seek peace. God of grace,

C: hear our prayer.

A: You see us for who we are and you delight in us. Embrace those struggling with self-worth, wrestling with self-identity, or facing significant life transition. Remind us that nothing can separate us from your love. God of grace,

C: hear our prayer.

A: Merciful God, we are grateful for the work of seafarer merchants who are responsible for 90% of the world's trade. They work hard, long months away from families, and often in conditions out of their control, like the weather. Keep them safe and may they know that you are near. God of grace,

C: hear our prayer.

Here other intercessions may be offered.

A: You bless us through the spiritual gifts of the saints who have gone before us. We give thanks for the life of Martin Luther King Jr. and all who have modeled the way of courageous faith (*especially*). 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 *Wonderful Light*

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: *Song of Thankfulness and Praise 310*

Dismissal

P: Go with Christ into a weary world.
Share the good news.
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, Mike Cervinsky, Agnes Cryder, Don Delaney, Mary Ellen Dougherty, Charlie Dunne, 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 –Shane Snyder; Assisting Ministers – Gary Johnson, Karen Aucker; Head Usher – Bob Wehler; Teller Lon Myers; Bulletin Sponsor – Cynthia Breon; Children's Church – Molly Hollick.

Next week's helpers: Lector – Deb Heydrich ; Assisting Minister- Joyce Braucht, Carl Schaefer; Head Usher – Bob Wehler; Teller Lon Myers; Bulletin Sponsor – Cynthia Breon; Children's Church – Holly Dittmer; Flowers – NEEDED!

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

The altar flowers are given in honor of Brayden's birthday by Pam and Bob Wehler.

Needed! – Sponsors of flowers for January 23 and 30 and several Sundays in February!
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.

Committee Meetings: Just a reminder that on Monday, 17 January:

6:00 p.m. Christian Education

7:00 p.m. Youth Ministry

“DAVID” playing at Sight and Sound !! August 6, 2022 -- Children 10 and under \$125.00; Adults \$190.00. Fare includes bus, play, meal, tip for driver and fund raiser for Luke Antolick. Payments may be made during the course of the year! Thank You! 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

Update on the Rising Anew Campaign. We continue to pay on the loan from the ELCA Mission Investment Fund. Currently our loan is down to \$ 277,281.68 as of December 31. Thank you everyone for your support in paying down the loan and your continued commitment to the ministries of St. John Lutheran Church. For those who wish to contribute to the Rising Anew Campaign, please write your check to: St. John Lutheran, earmark on the memo line: “Rising Anew” and put it in an envelope with your name on the envelope and place it in the offering plate.

Automate your regular offering Do you know that over \$4,000 per month is given electronically by members of St. John? St. John Lutheran Church wants to remind you that we offer electronic giving as a way to automate your regular offering. Electronic giving provides convenience for you and much needed donation consistency for our congregation. Getting started is easy. Authorization forms and additional information are available from the church office, 570-398-1676.

Vanco Mobile app. St. John Lutheran offers a convenient way to support the ministries of St. John. Now you can download the “Vanco Mobile Faith” app from your app store for your cell phone. This feature is also on our web site and Facebook site. Enter your email, make up a password, and walk through the choices to give the church an electronic donation by check or debit/credit card. If you have any questions, contact Scott Mitchell.

We also offer **VancoText:** Simply send a text message to 570-865-1101 with the amount you would like to contribute (example: 25). Within a few minutes, you’ll be sent a text with a link to register. Click on the link and enter your cardholder’s name and credit or debit card information. Once your registration is complete, you will receive a text verification and a receipt of your donation via email. For future giving, send a text with the amount you wish to give, and it will process automatically! You can even text “repeat” to make it a recurring donation. VancoText is one of the fastest, easiest ways to give. We hope you enjoy this new way to share your generosity and we thank you for supporting your church.

Weis Certificates. As a special fundraiser for church projects, we are selling Weis Markets gift certificates each Sunday after worship or during office hours during the weekdays. You can buy \$10, 20, 50, 100 certificates. You pay \$10, take them to the store and use them like cash to buy \$10 worth of groceries. The church earns 5% from Weis Markets. While that may not seem like much, if 100 families in the congregation spend \$100 per week on groceries that 5% would add up to \$26,000 per year with very little effort other than buying and reselling them. It is a great way to support the youth ministries of St. John.

Calling all High School Youth! Join us Monday evening, January 24, 6:00 p.m. at St. John Lutheran, 229 South Broad Street. Dinner provided.

Topic: “Paint a rock” Bring your friends and join us.

Spaghetti Dinner for the Congregation. Each year the youth of St. John provide a spaghetti 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.

Annual Reports - A reminder to the chairs of all ministries of St. John Lutheran – your annual reports must be submitted to the office **by January 16** to be included in the annual report to the congregation at the annual congregation meeting on February 6, 2022.

THIS WEEK'S EVENTS

Sunday, January 16, 2022

2nd Sunday of Epiphany

- 9:30 a.m. Sunday School Starts
- 9:30 a.m. Nave Worship Service
- Please submit committee reports !
- 2:00 p.m. Catechism

Monday, January 17, 2022

- 10:00 a.m. Bible Study
- 6:00 p.m. Christian Education Committee Meeting
- 7:00 p.m. Youth Ministry Committee Meeting

Wednesday, January 19, 2022

- 10:00 a.m. Worship at Trinity Episcopal Church
- 6:30 p.m. Choir Rehearsal

Sunday, January 23, 2022

3rd Sunday after Epiphany

- 9:30 a.m. Sunday School Starts
- 9:30 a.m. Nave Worship Service

**JESUS IS THE LIFE
OF THE PARTY!**



IT'S TRUE.



WWW.AGNUSDAY.ORG

JOHN 2:1-11

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Comment on this comic --- At 20 gallons a jar, that's just over **590 bottles of wine!**

Jesus doesn't do things by halves.

Peace and Joy,

James Wetzstein, creator Agnus Day