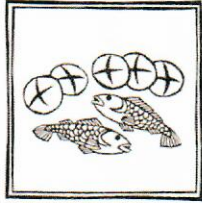


St. John Evangelical Lutheran Church
229 South Broad Street
Jersey Shore, PA 17740
570-398-1676

Sunday, July 25, 2021
9th Sunday after Pentecost



Introduction to the day

Today is the first of five Sundays with gospel readings from John 6, the first four of which focus on Jesus as bread of life. Today Jesus feeds thousands of people with five loaves and two fish. What we have, what we bring to Jesus' table, seems like it is not nearly enough to meet all the needs we see around us. But it is not the adequacy of our supplies or our skills that finally makes the difference: it is the power of Jesus working in the littlest and least to transform this world into the world God desires, a world where all the hungry are satisfied.

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.

P: In the name of the Father, and of the ✝ Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

C: Amen.

P: Almighty God, to whom all hearts are open, all desires known, and from whom no secrets are hid: Cleanse the thoughts of our hearts by the inspiration of your Holy Spirit, that we may perfectly love you and worthily magnify your holy name, through Jesus Christ our Lord.

C: Amen.

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

The assembly kneels or stands. Silence is kept for reflection.

P: Gracious God,

C: have mercy on us. We confess that we have turned from you and given ourselves into the power of sin. We are truly sorry and humbly repent. In your compassion forgive us our sins, known and unknown, things we have done and things we have failed to do. Turn us again to you, and uphold us by your Spirit, so that we may live and serve you in newness of life through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.

P: In the mercy of almighty God, Jesus Christ was given to die for us, and for his sake God forgives us all our sins. As a called and ordained minister of the church of Christ, and by his authority, I therefore declare to you the entire forgiveness of all your sins, in the name of the Father, and of the ✠ Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

C: Amen.

GATHERING SONG: *Open Now Thy Gates of Beauty* 533

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: *The Church of Christ in Every Age* 729

PRAYER OF THE DAY

P: Let us pray.

C: Gracious God, you have placed within the hearts of all your children a longing for your word and a hunger for your truth. Grant that we may know your Son to be the true bread of heaven and share this bread with all the world, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

Amen.

The assembly is seated.

WORD

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

FIRST READING: 2 Kings 4:42-44 A reading from 2 Kings.

Today's reading is part of a larger section of 2 Kings that describes the miracles of Elisha, the successor to Elijah. Here the prophet gives food to a hungry crowd. Though there is not enough food to go around, Elisha trusts God, who provides enough and even more to satisfy the need.

⁴²A man came from Baal-shalishah, bringing food from the first fruits to [Elisha,] the man of God: twenty loaves of barley and fresh ears of grain in his sack. Elisha said, "Give it to the people and let them eat." ⁴³But his servant said, "How can I set this before a hundred people?" So he repeated, "Give it to the people and let them eat, for thus says the LORD, 'They shall eat and have some left.'" ⁴⁴He set it before them, they ate, and had some left, according to the word of the LORD.

L: The word of the Lord.

C: Thanks be to God.

PSALM: read responsively Psalm 145:10-18

¹⁰All your works shall praise you, O LORD,
and your faithful ones shall bless you.

¹¹**They shall tell of the glory of your kingdom
and speak of your power,**

¹²that all people may know of your power
and the glorious splendor of your kingdom.

¹³**Your kingdom is an everlasting kingdom; your dominion endures through-out all ages.
You, LORD, are faithful in all your words, and loving in all your works.**

¹⁴The Lord upholds all those who fall
and lifts up those who are bowed down.

¹⁵**The eyes of all wait upon you, O LORD,
and you give them their food in due season.**

¹⁶You open wide your hand
and satisfy the desire of every living thing.

¹⁷**You are righteous in all your ways
and loving in all your works.**

¹⁸You are near to all who call upon you,
to all who call upon you faithfully.

SECOND READING: Ephesians 3:14-21 A reading from Ephesians.

We have been rooted and grounded in the love of Christ, which surpasses all human knowledge. Because Christ dwells in our hearts, our lives are continuously strengthened and empowered by the ongoing presence of the Spirit.

¹⁴For this reason I bow my knees before the Father, ¹⁵from whom every family in heaven and on earth takes its name. ¹⁶I pray that, according to the riches of his glory, he may grant that you may be strengthened in your inner being with power through his Spirit, ¹⁷and that Christ may dwell in your hearts through faith, as you are being rooted and grounded in love. ¹⁸I pray that you may have the power to comprehend, with all the saints, what is the breadth and length and height and depth, ¹⁹and to know the love of Christ that surpasses knowledge, so that you may be filled with all the fullness of God.

²⁰Now to him who by the power at work within us is able to accomplish abundantly far more than all we can ask or imagine, ²¹to him be glory in the church and in Christ Jesus to all generations, forever and ever. Amen.

L: The word of the Lord.

C: **Thanks be to God.**

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Al - le - lu - ia. Lord, to whom shall we go? You have the
words of e - ter - nal life. Al - le - lu - ia. Al - le - lu - ia.

GOSPEL: John 6:1-21

P: The holy gospel according to John.

C: **Glory to you, O Lord.**

In John's gospel, the miracles of Jesus are called "signs," because they reveal the true character of God. As such, they remain within the mystery of God and cannot be brought under human control.

¹ Jesus went to the other side of the Sea of Galilee, also called the Sea of Tiberias. ² A large crowd kept following him, because they saw the signs that he was doing for the sick. ³ Jesus went up the mountain and sat down there with his disciples. ⁴ Now the Passover, the festival of the Jews, was near. ⁵ When he looked up and saw a large crowd coming toward him, Jesus said to Philip, "Where are we to buy bread for these people to eat?" ⁶ He said this to test him, for he himself knew what he was going to do. Philip answered him, "Six months' wages would not buy enough bread for each of them to get a little." ⁷ One of his disciples, Andrew, Simon Peter's brother, said to him, "There is a boy here who has five barley loaves and two fish. But what are they among so many people?" ⁸ Jesus said, "Make the people sit down." Now there was a great deal of grass in the place; so they sat down, about five thousand in all. ⁹ Then Jesus took the loaves, and when he had given thanks, he distributed them to those who were seated; so also the fish, as much as they wanted. ¹⁰ When they were satisfied, he told his disciples, "Gather up the

fragments left over, so that nothing may be lost." ¹¹ So they gathered them up, and from the fragments of the five barley loaves, left by those who had eaten, they filled twelve baskets. ¹² When the people saw the sign that he had done, they began to say, "This is indeed the prophet who is to come into the world."

¹³ When Jesus realized that they were about to come and take him by force to make him king, he withdrew again to the mountain by himself.

¹⁴ When evening came, his disciples went down to the sea, ¹⁵ got into a boat, and started across the sea to Capernaum. It was now dark, and Jesus had not yet come to them. ¹⁶ The sea became rough because a strong wind was blowing. ¹⁷ When they had rowed about three or four miles, they saw Jesus walking on the sea and coming near the boat, and they were terrified. ¹⁸ But he said to them, "It is I; do not be afraid." ¹⁹ Then they wanted to take him into the boat, and immediately the boat reached the land toward which they were going.

P: The gospel of the Lord.

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

SERMON

HYMN OF THE DAY: *Break Now the Bread of Life* 515

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: Rooted in Christ and sustained by the Spirit, we offer our prayers for the church, the world, and all of creation.

A brief silence.

A: We pray for the church. Bless the ministries of our neighboring congregations (*especially*). Empower churches throughout the world and encourage missionaries who accompany global neighbors. Kindle in us a spirit of collaboration, that all people may know your loving works. Hear us, O God.

C: Your mercy is great.

A: We pray for creation. Send rain to lands experiencing drought and come to the aid of those enduring sweltering heat. Nurture wheat and barley crops grown for the nourishment of your people and conserve aquatic habitats and fish populations. Hear us, O God.

C: Your mercy is great.

A: We pray for those who govern. Cast out arrogance, selfishness, and corruption and instruct those who lead to practice compassion and humility. Inspire them with a vision of the common good and a commitment to ensure that all who hunger are fed. Hear us, O God.

C: Your mercy is great.

A: We pray for those bowed down by heavy burdens: those who are unemployed or underemployed, those unable to find affordable housing, and those without health insurance. Console those who grieve and hear the cries of those who call to you for healing (*especially*). Hear us, O God.

C: Your mercy is great.

A: We pray for this assembly. Deepen our resolve to use what we have to serve those in need. When we worry that we do not have enough resources for ministry, assure us of your abundance. Hear us, O God.

C: Your mercy is great.

Here other intercessions may be offered.

A: We give thanks for those who have died. As you sustained them through all their days, so dwell in our hearts, that we may have the power to comprehend, with (*the apostle James, name/s, and*) all the saints, the love of Christ that surpasses knowledge. Hear us, O God.

C: Your mercy is great.

A: We lift these and all our prayers to you, O God, confident in the promise of your saving love; through Jesus Christ our Lord.

Amen.

Our Offerings

This is our response to God's grace.

This ministry is funded by those who call St. John home and are excited about what God is doing through this ministry. If you are new to church, please don't feel any obligation to give. As much as we welcome your gifts for the Lord's work in this place, we care a whole lot more about you than money. We're just thrilled you're here.

OFFERATORY

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: Jesus, Bread of life,
you have set this table with your very self,
and called us to the feast of plenty.

Gather what has been sown among us,
and strengthen us in this meal.

Make us to be what we receive here,
your body for the life of the world.

C: Amen.

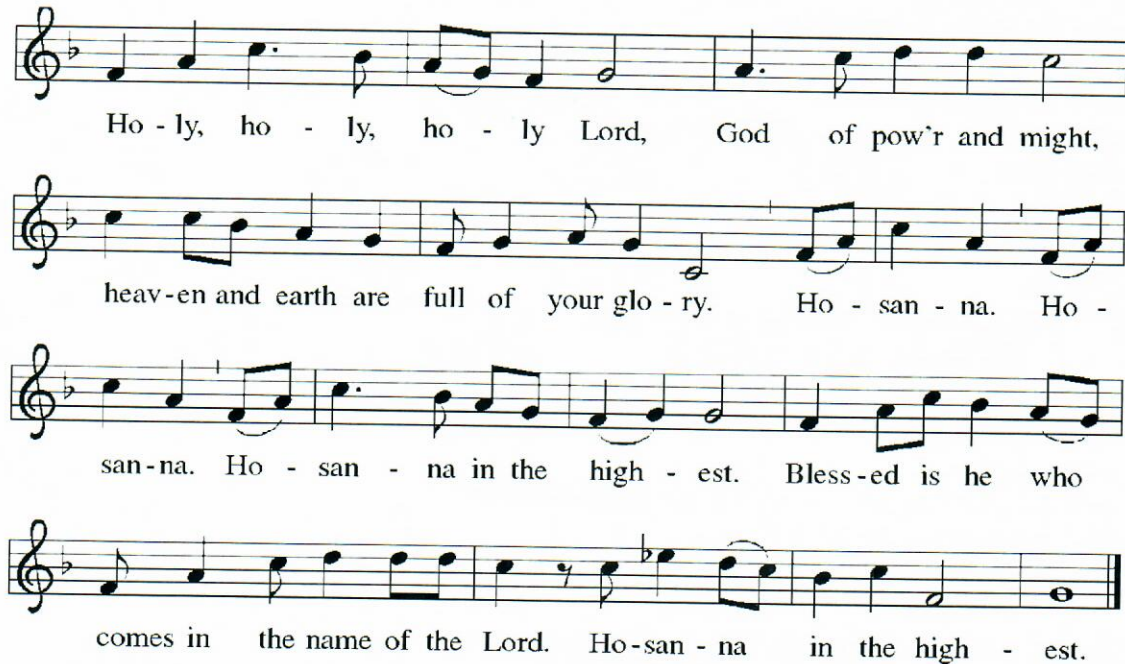
DIALOGUE



The Lord be with you. And al - so with you.
Lift up your hearts. We lift them to the Lord.
Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.
It is right to give our thanks and praise.

PREFACE BY PASTOR

HOLY, HOLY, HOLY



Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow'r and might,
heav-en and earth are full of your glo - ry. Ho - san - na. Ho -
san-na. Ho - san - na in the high - est. Bless-ed is he who
comes in the name of the Lord. Ho-san - na in the high - est.

THANKSGIVING AT THE TABLE

Holy God, holy and mighty, holy and immortal:
you we praise and glorify, you we worship and adore.

You formed the earth from chaos;
you encircled the globe with air;

you created fire for warmth and light;
you nourish the lands with water.
You molded us in your image,
and with mercy higher than the mountains,
with grace deeper than the seas,
you blessed the Israelites and cherished them as your own.

That also we, estranged and dying,
might be adopted to live in your Spirit,
you called to us through the life and death of 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.

Together as the body of Christ,
we proclaim the Lord's death until he comes:
Christ has died.
Christ is risen.
Christ will come again.

With this bread and cup we remember your Son,
the first-born of your new creation.
We remember his life lived for others,
and his death and resurrection, which renews the face of the earth.
We await his coming,
when, with the world made perfect through your wisdom,
all our sins and sorrows will be no more.
Amen. Come, Lord Jesus.

Holy God, holy and merciful one, holy and compassionate,
send upon us and this meal your Holy Spirit,
whose breath revives us for life,
whose fire rouses us to love.
Enfold in your arms all who share this holy food.
Nurture in us the fruits of the Spirit,
that we may be a living tree, sharing your bounty with all the world.
Amen. Come, Holy Spirit.

Holy and benevolent God,
receive our praise and petitions,
as Jesus received the cry of the needy,
and fill us with your blessing,
until, needy no longer and bound to you in love,
we feast forever in the triumph of the Lamb:
through whom all glory and honor is yours, O God, O Living One,
with the Holy Spirit, in your holy church, 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: Christ has set the table with more than enough for all. Come!

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



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: Jesus, Bread of life,
we have received from your table
more than we could ever ask.
As you have nourished us in this meal,
now strengthen us to love the world with your own life.
In your name we pray.

C: Amen.

SENDING

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

BLESSING

P: The blessing of God, who provides for us, feeds us, and journeys with us,
✠ be upon you now and forever.

C: Amen.

SENDING SONG: *Sent Forth by God's Blessing* 547

DISMISSAL

P: Go in peace. You are the body of Christ.

C: Thanks be to God.

POSTLUDE

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: Rowen Aldridge, Luke Antolick, Connie Barker, Bob Braucht, Mike Cervinsky, Dick Dershem, Dawn Hauser, Linda and Ralph Lehman, David Mitchell, Bob and Phyllis Moriarity, Kathy Neal, Ruth Nice, Jean Ann Snyder, Shane Snyder, John Truax, and all of our shut-ins; the safety of our military troops around the world (Mark Baier, Isaac Boring, Jake Cordrey, Richie and Patrick Hamlin, Paul Laidacker, Kenny Leitch, Steven Moore, Maddison Myers, Tyler O’Neal, Adam Shaffer, Aaron Stabley, Paul St. James, Jenna White); Family Promise and the homeless in our counties. 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 this week's helpers: Lector--; Assisting Ministers --; Acolytes --Clayton & Hoyt Hart; Head Usher --Deb Heydrich; Teller --Cozette Stoltzfus; Bulletin Sponsor - need volunteers; Bread Sponsor --Jean Ann Snyder.

Next week's helpers: Lector--Kathy Brundick; Assisting Ministers --Deb Heydrich and Ron Brundick ; Acolytes --Harlee Kastner; Head Usher --Teller --Bulletin Sponsor - need volunteers; Bread Sponsor --Dean and Gloria Ely

The altar flowers are given for the glory of God and in loving memory of my parents Marge and Boyd Murray by Jean Ann Snyder and family.

We extend our sympathies to the family of Megan Haltenhoff who passed away on Friday, July 16, 2021. She is the granddaughter of David and Christine Barner.

We extend our sympathies to the family of Ginny Moffitt who died at her residence on Thursday, July 8, 2021. A celebration of her life will occur on Monday, August 16, at St. John Lutheran.

Conley T Myers, 82, who grew up in Jersey Shore and was baptized, confirmed, and married at St. John Lutheran, died on July 9, 2021 in Englewood, Florida. She taught English composition and literature in the Jersey Shore Middle School and Manheim Central High School. A Memorial Service to celebrate her life will be held on Wednesday, August 11 at 1:00 p.m. at Ravensburg State Park at the picnic pavilion with Pastor Aucker presiding.

Penny and Ken's Ride for Luke

We invite you to sponsor and support Penny and Ken's Ride for Luke Antolick on Saturday, September 4 as they ride the Pine Creek Rails to Trails north to Wellsboro Junction and then back to Jersey Shore to support Luke as he continues to undergo treatments and therapy. He has made so much progress thanks to all of you.

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

Calling for volunteers! - Ten years ago, St John and members of area churches gathered at St John for a series of classes called Transformation Ministry. Our Bishop is hosting a meeting on Saturday, July 31, 9:30-11:30, at Holy Spirit Lutheran south of Turbotville. If you participated in the previous Transformation Ministry classes and can attend July 31, please let Pastor know so we have a count.

Vacation Bible School - Breakout

This year our Jersey Shore community Bible School will be held at First United Methodist Church, Main St., JS for three days this year, August 10, 11 and 12 from 6:00 p.m. - 8:00 p.m. Registration will begin on Tuesday, August 10 at 5:30 p.m. Registration forms are available. This event is for all children ages 3 through completing 5th grade.

David Kuehl is now living at
Salem Hill Haven
424 Heckman Cemetery Road
Spring Mills PA 16875

HYMN SING ! Sunday, August 15. Please on a corner of your bulletin, write down the title or page number of your favorite(s) hymn. Put the slip of paper in the offering plate. If it isn't in the hymnal, that's all right. We can still put the hymn in the bulletin!

THIS WEEK'S EVENTS

Sunday, July 25, 2021 *9th Sunday after Pentecost*
9:30 a.m. Nave Worship Service
7:00 p.m. NA meeting
Monday, July 26, 2021
Carl Schaefer's foot surgery
Tuesday, July 27, 2021
7:00 p.m. N.A. & A.A. Meetings
Wednesday, July 28, 2021
10:00 a.m. Communion Trinity Episcopal Church
Saturday, July 31, 2021
9:30-11:30 Transformation Ministry at Holy Spirit Lutheran in Turbotville
Sunday, August 1, 2021 *10th Sunday after Pentecost*
9:30 a.m. Nave Worship Service
7:00 p.m. NA meeting

John 6

