

**St. John Evangelical Lutheran Church  
229 South Broad Street, Jersey Shore PA  
Sunday, July 11, 2021  
7<sup>th</sup> Sunday after Pentecost**

**Introduction to the day**

*When Amos reports his vision of God judging Israel for its mistreatment of the poor, he becomes a threat to the power of the priests and the king. John the Baptist also speaks truth to power, and Herod has him killed. In Herod's fear that Jesus is John returned from the dead, we may hear hope for the oppressed: all the prophets killed through the ages are alive in Jesus. We are called to witness to justice in company with them, and to proclaim God's saving love.*

**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.*

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

**Amen.**

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.

**Amen.**

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

Gracious God,

**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: God, who is rich in mercy, loved us even when we were dead in sin, and made us alive together with Christ. By grace you have been saved. In the name of ✝ Jesus Christ, your sins are forgiven. Almighty God strengthen you with power through the Holy Spirit, that Christ may live in your hearts through faith.

**C: Amen.**

**GATHERING SONG: *Just a Closer Walk with Thee* (ELW 697)**

**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 THE DAY: *The Church's One Foundation* (ELW 654)**

**PRAYER OF THE DAY**

P: Let us pray.

**C: O God, from you come all holy desires, all good counsels, and all just works. Give to us, your servants, that peace which the world cannot give, that our hearts may be set to obey your commandments; and also that we, being defended from the fear of our enemies, may live in peace and quietness, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.**

**WORD**

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

**FIRST READING: Amos 7:7-15**

L: A reading from Amos.

*Amos is not the kind of prophet attached to temples or royal courts. Rather, he is an ordinary farmer from Judah (the southern kingdom) called by God to speak to Israel (the northern kingdom). God's word of judgment through Amos conflicts with the king's court prophet Amaziah, whom Amos encounters at Bethel.*

<sup>7</sup>This is what [the Lord GOD] showed me: the Lord was standing beside a wall built with a plumb line, with a plumb line in his hand. <sup>8</sup>And the LORD said to me, "Amos, what do you see?" And I said, "A plumb line." Then the Lord said,

"See, I am setting a plumb line  
in the midst of my people Israel;  
I will never again pass them by;

<sup>9</sup>the high places of Isaac shall be made desolate,  
and the sanctuaries of Israel shall be laid waste,  
and I will rise against the house of Jeroboam with the sword."

<sup>10</sup>Then Amaziah, the priest of Bethel, sent to King Jeroboam of Israel, saying, "Amos has conspired against you in the very center of the house of Israel; the land is not able to bear all his words. <sup>11</sup>For thus Amos has said,

'Jeroboam shall die by the sword,  
and Israel must go into exile  
away from his land.'

<sup>12</sup>And Amaziah said to Amos, "O seer, go, flee away to the land of Judah, earn your bread there, and prophesy there; <sup>13</sup>but never again prophesy at Bethel, for it is the king's sanctuary, and it is a temple of the kingdom."

<sup>14</sup>Then Amos answered Amaziah, “I am no prophet, nor a prophet’s son; but I am a herdsman, and a dresser of sycamore trees, <sup>15</sup>and the LORD took me from following the flock, and the LORD said to me, ‘Go, prophesy to my people Israel.’ ”

L: The word of the Lord.

**C: Thanks be to God.**

**PSALM: 85:8-13 read responsively**

<sup>8</sup>I will listen to what the LORD God is saying;  
for you speak peace to your faithful people and to those who turn their hearts to you.

<sup>9</sup>**Truly, your salvation is very near to those who fear you,  
that your glory may dwell in our land.**

<sup>10</sup>Steadfast love and faithfulness have met together;  
righteousness and peace have kissed each other.

<sup>11</sup>**Faithfulness shall spring up from the earth,  
and righteousness shall look down from heaven.**

<sup>12</sup>The LORD will indeed grant prosperity,  
and our land will yield its increase.

<sup>13</sup>**Righteousness shall go before the LORD  
and shall prepare for God a pathway.**

**SECOND READING: Ephesians 1:3-14**

L: A reading from Ephesians.

*In Jesus, all of God’s plans and purposes have been made known as heaven and earth are united in Christ. Through Jesus, we have been chosen as God’s children and have been promised eternal salvation.*

<sup>3</sup>Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who has blessed us in Christ with every spiritual blessing in the heavenly places, <sup>4</sup>just as he chose us in Christ before the foundation of the world to be holy and blameless before him in love. <sup>5</sup>He destined us for adoption as his children through Jesus Christ, according to the good pleasure of his will, <sup>6</sup>to the praise of his glorious grace that he freely bestowed on us in the Beloved. <sup>7</sup>In him we have redemption through his blood, the forgiveness of our trespasses, according to the riches of his grace <sup>8</sup>that he lavished on us. With all wisdom and insight <sup>9</sup>he has made known to us the mystery of his will, according to his good pleasure that he set forth in Christ, <sup>10</sup>as a plan for the fullness of time, to gather up all things in him, things in heaven and things on earth. <sup>11</sup>In Christ we have also obtained an inheritance, having been destined according to the purpose of him who accomplishes all things according to his counsel and will, <sup>12</sup>so that we, who were the first to set our hope on Christ, might live for the praise of his glory. <sup>13</sup>In him you also, when you had heard the word of truth, the gospel of your salvation, and had believed in him, were marked with the seal of the promised Holy Spirit; <sup>14</sup>this is the pledge of our inheritance toward redemption as God’s own people, to the praise of his glory.

L: The word of the Lord.

**C: Thanks be to God.**



## SERMON

*Silence for meditation*

**HYMN OF THE DAY: *Lord, Speak to Us, That We May Speak* (ELW 676)**

## 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: Let us come before the triune God in prayer.

*A brief silence.*

A: Holy parent, you welcome your people into one family and gather all things to yourself. Bestow your grace upon your beloved church, lavish your wisdom upon us, and redeem us from our faults, that by our witness all might praise your glory. Lord, in your mercy,

**C: hear our prayer.**

A: Awesome Creator, you steadfastly tend to the smallest of seeds and the mightiest of sycamore trees. Spring up green growth from the earth, nourish the growth of fruit, grain, and other crops, and bless the work of farmers and laborers. Lord, in your mercy,

**C: hear our prayer.**

A: God of the oppressed, turn the ears of those who are in power to the voices of prophets in our own day. Protect those who speak difficult truths when it is risky to do so. Lord, in your mercy,

**C: hear our prayer.**

A: God of strength, you are near to those who endure difficulty. Comfort all who are survivors of violence, guard the refugee and the immigrant, and protect all those who are victims of prejudice and discrimination. Lord, in your mercy,

**C: hear our prayer.**

A: God of love, we pray for this holy house and all those who worship here. We pray especially for those whose efforts behind the scenes often go unnoticed; for the custodian(s) and maintenance workers, for our office staff and for all of our volunteers. Lord, in your mercy,

**C: hear our prayer.**

A: We thank you, God, for the saints, martyrs, and prophets who have died in the faith. We remember those in this community who have recently died. United with them as God's children, assure us that we are yours forever. Lord, in your mercy,

**C: hear our prayer.**

A: We uplift the teachers who will begin orientation as they set out to serve in countries around the world through the Lutheran World Relief education program. Grant your Spirit in their learning of the countries in which they will serve and the languages they need to learn. Lord, in your mercy,

**C: hear our prayer.**

P: We lift our prayers to you, O God, trusting in your abiding grace.

**C: Amen.**

## **MEAL**

God feeds us with the presence of Jesus Christ.

## **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.*

## **OFFERTORY**

### **Offertory Hymn: Create in Me (ELW 186)**

*Cre-ate in me a clean heart, O God, and re-new a right spir-it with-in me.*

*Cast me not a-way from your pres-ence, and take not your Ho-ly Spir-it from me.*

*Re-store to me the joy of your sal-va-tion, and up-hold me with your free Spir-it.*

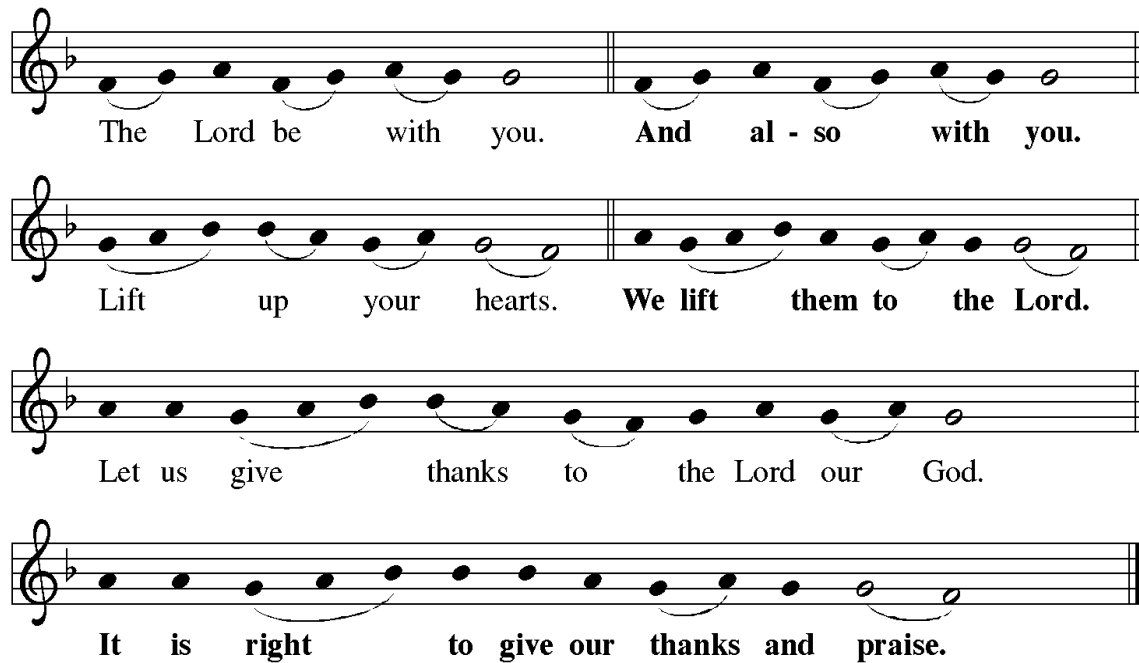
## **OFFERING PRAYER**

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.**

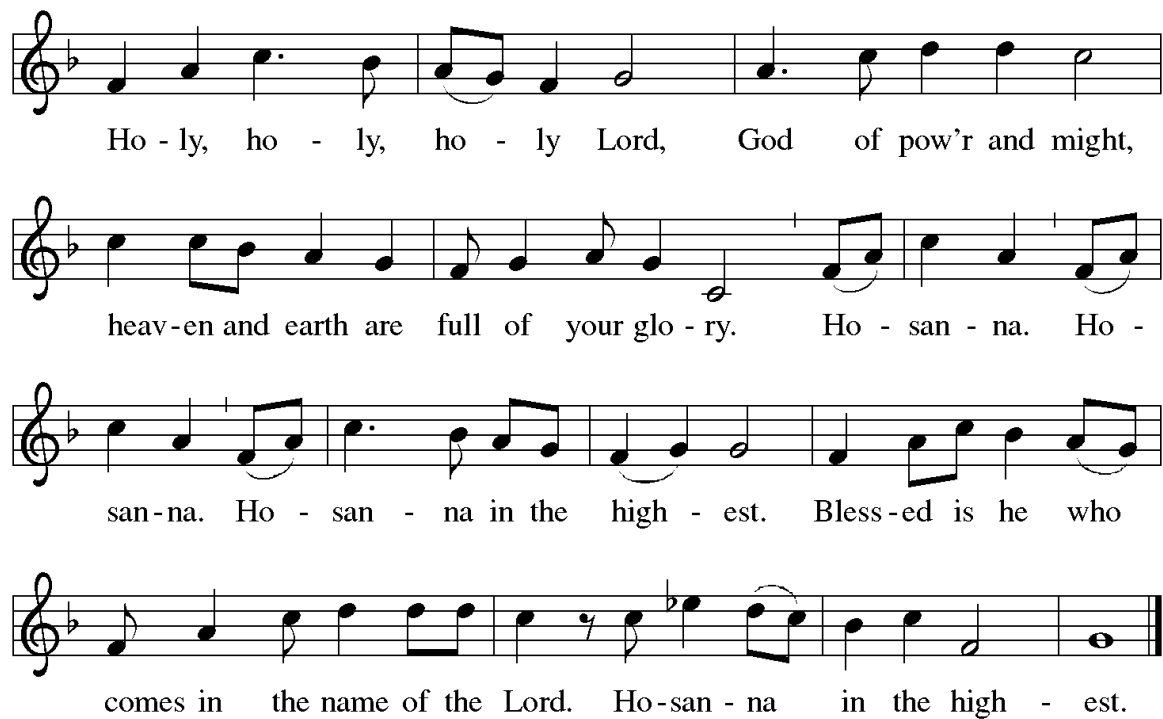
**GREAT THANKSGIVING  
DIALOGUE**



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, our Maker, Redeemer, and Healer,  
in the harmonious world of your creation,  
the plants and animals, the seas and stars  
were whole and well in your praise.

When sin had scarred the world,  
you sent your Son to heal our ills  
and to form us again into one.

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.

Remembering, therefore,  
his acts of healing, his body given up, and his victory over death,  
we await that day when all the peoples of the earth  
will come to the river to enjoy the tree of life.

Send your Spirit upon us and this meal:  
as grains scattered on the hillside become one bread,  
so let your Church be gathered from the ends of the earth,  
that all may be fed with the Bread of life, your Son.

Through him all glory and honor are yours,  
Almighty Father, with the Holy Spirit,  
in your holy Church, both now and forever.

**C: 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

Christ has set the table with more than enough for all. Come!

## COMMUNION

*When giving the bread and cup, the communion ministers say*

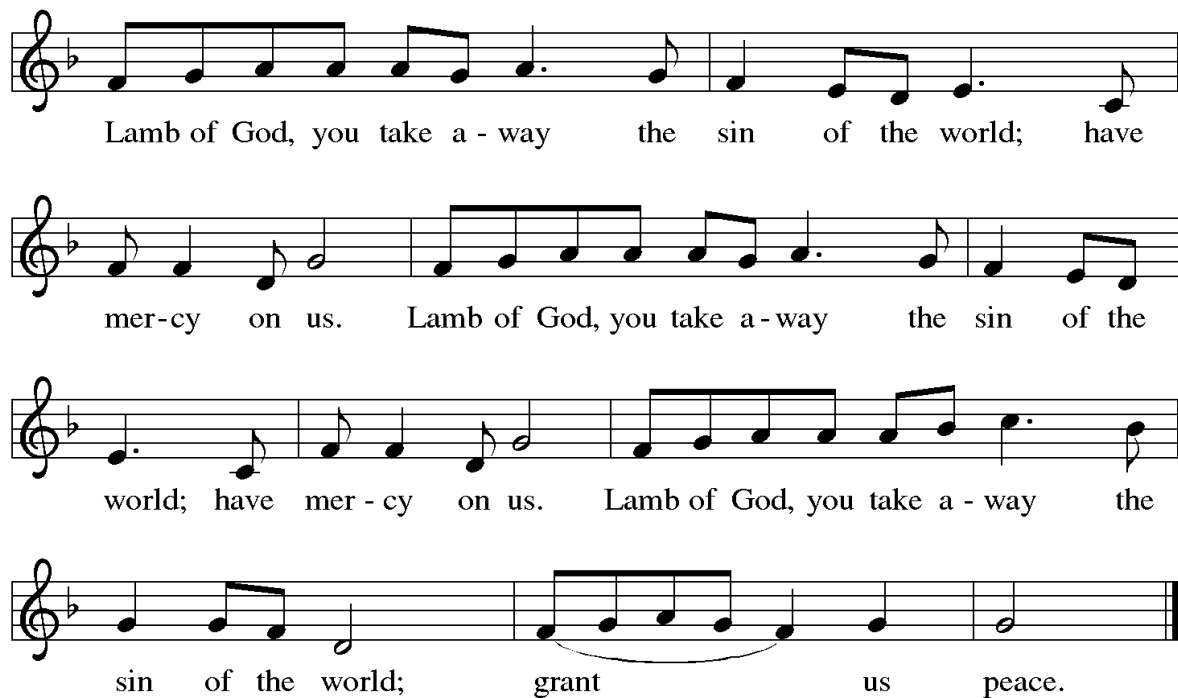
The body of Christ, given for you.

The blood of Christ, shed for you.

*and each person may respond*

Amen.

## COMMUNION SONG



Lamb of God, you take a - way the sin of the world; have  
mer-cy on us. Lamb of God, you take a-way the sin of the  
world; have mer - cy on us. Lamb of God, you take a - way the  
sin of the world; grant us peace.

## SONG AFTER COMMUNION *Jesus Remember Me (ELW 616)*

“Jesus, remember me when you come into your kingdom.

Jesus, remember me when you come into your kingdom.”

## PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

P: 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.**

## THE SENDING

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

## **BLESSING OF YOUTH TO CAMP**

*Trenton Myers, Nathan Klugh, Lily Klugh, Andrew Mitchell, Ella Mitchell, Abby Mitchell*

*Go, my children, off to camp with Christ by your side.*

*May He go before you, let His light be your guide.*

*May He go behind you to guard you,*

*Stand beside you to befriend you.*

*May you know His peace and in His love e'er abide.*

P: You are with us wherever we go and send us to do fun, important, and life-changing things with you.

Today, we are celebrating and asking for your blessing over our campers.

They are about to embark on a journey filled with adventure, fun, and faith formation that will help them grow closer to you.

Bless *Trenton, Nathan, Lily and the Mitchells* that they might adventure with you this week.

Help them feel you close and remind them that we are here, back home, praying for the exciting week ahead. Help them know our love and our hopes for them this week. Bless our church, too, God.

Bless us as we wait for our campers to return home prayerfully and patiently.

Bless us so that we might be changed, just as they are, because of their week at camp.

## **SENDING PRAYER**

Send us out, O God.

Send our campers to walk and play and adventure with you.

Send our church out to do the same.

Send each of us out into the world,

knowing that you are with us

and that your community is supporting us,

wherever we go.

**C: Amen.**

## **BLESSING**

The blessing of God, who provides for us, feeds us, and journeys with us,

✠ be upon you now and forever.

**C: Amen.**

## **DISMISSAL**

Go in peace. You are the body of Christ.

**C: Thanks be to God.**

## ***Announcements***

*We extend our sympathies to the family of Ginny Moffitt who died on Thursday morning, July 8, 2021. Services will be announced later.*

Remember in prayer: Rowen Aldridge, Luke Antolick, Connie Barker, Bob Braucht, Mike Cervinsky, 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, Jade 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: Lectors – Karen Aucker; Assisting Ministers - Bill Ely Jr. and Ken Dougherty; Acolyte – Emilee Eisner; Head Usher -Deb Heydrich; Teller-Cozette Stoltzfus; Bulletin sponsor -; Bread sponsor - Jean Ann Snyder.

Next week's helpers: Lector –Shane Snyder; Assisting Ministers -Gary Johnson and Karen Aucker; Acolyte –Carter Stackhouse; Head Usher -Deb Heydrich; Teller-Cozette Stoltzfus; Bulletin Sponsor -; Bread sponsor - Jean Ann Snyder.

The altar flowers are given to the Glory of God and in loving memory of our brother, Raymond Gallagher from Renee and Wayne Yearick.

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

### **Thank you**

*Thank you for the blanket and all the times our church has stood behind my family and I in everything I do there is no way I will ever be able to physically repay you. Thanks again and Christ be with you, Tucker Wool*

*Thank you so much for the blanket and the opportunity to celebrate this achievement; being surrounded by such caring and thoughtful people means so much to me. Your continuous support through this new chapter in my life is very appreciated by both myself and my family. Sincerely, Hannah Wool*

**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.

**Giving Plus+** - Download the “Giving Plus+” app from your app store for your cell phone. Also available on our web 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. People were asking if they could give electronically by debit/credit card.

**Give+ Text:** Simply send a text message to 570-865-1101 with the amount you would like to contribute. 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.

### Youth Ministry

**“Grab-a-Tab”** The youth of St. John would like to ask for donations of little tabs from beverage, soup and dessert cans. It doesn’t matter what color the tab, just grab them and deliver them to the church office. This project will benefit the Ronald McDonald House of Danville. “Grab-a-Tab” program allows people of all ages to join in the effort of providing a “Home-away-from-Home” to children with cancer or other serious illnesses and their families.



### 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. Forms are available This event is for all children ages 3 through completing 5<sup>th</sup> grade.

### THIS WEEK’S EVENTS

Sunday, July 11, 2021

*7<sup>th</sup> Sunday after Pentecost*

*Blessing of Kids to Camp*

9:30 a.m. Nave Worship Service

7:00 p.m. NA meeting

Monday, July 12, 2021

10:00 a.m. Pick hymns

Tuesday, July 13, 2021

7:00 p.m. A.A. and N. A. meetings

Sunday, July 18, 2021

*8<sup>th</sup> Sunday after Pentecost*

9:30 a.m. Nave Worship Service

7:00 p.m. NA meeting



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EPHESIANS 1:3-16

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