

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

Sunday, July 18, 2021
8th Sunday after Pentecost

Introduction to the day

Mark's gospel makes clear how great is the press of the crowd, with its countless needs to be met, on Jesus and his disciples. Yet in today's gospel Jesus advises his disciples to get away and rest, to take care of themselves. Sometimes we think that when others are in great need we shouldn't think of ourselves at all; but Jesus also honors the caregivers' need. We are sent from Christ's table to care for others and for ourselves.

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.

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: 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: *I Heard the Voice of Jesus Say (KINGSFOLD) (ELW 611)*

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: *Christ Is Made the Sure Foundation (ELW 645)*

PRAYER OF THE DAY

P: Let us pray.

C: O God, powerful and compassionate, you shepherd your people, faithfully feeding and protecting us. Heal each of us, and make us a whole people, that we may embody the justice and peace of 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 23:1-6

L: A reading from Jeremiah.

Jeremiah prophesied before the exile in 587 BCE. In this passage, he uses the metaphor of a shepherd to describe the bad kings who have scattered the “flock” of Israel. God promises to gather the flock and to raise up a new king from David’s line to save Israel and Judah.

¹Woe to the shepherds who destroy and scatter the sheep of my pasture! says the LORD.

²Therefore thus says the LORD, the God of Israel, concerning the shepherds who shepherd my people: It is you who have scattered my flock, and have driven them away, and you have not attended to them. So I will attend to you for your evil doings, says the LORD. ³Then I myself will gather the remnant of my flock out of all the lands where I have driven them, and I will bring them back to their fold, and they shall be fruitful and multiply. ⁴I will raise up shepherds over them who will shepherd them, and they shall not fear any longer, or be dismayed, nor shall any be missing, says the LORD.

⁵The days are surely coming, says the LORD, when I will raise up for David a righteous Branch, and he shall reign as king and deal wisely, and shall execute justice and righteousness in the land. ⁶In his days Judah will be saved and Israel will live in safety. And this is the name by which he will be called: “The LORD is our righteousness.”

L: The word of the Lord. **C: Thanks be to God.**

PSALM: 23 read responsively

¹The LORD is my shepherd;

I shall not be in want.

²**The LORD makes me lie down in green pastures
and leads me beside still waters.**

³You restore my soul, O LORD,

and guide me along right pathways for your name's sake.

⁴**Though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death, I shall fear no evil;
for you are with me; your rod and your staff, they comfort me.**

⁵You prepare a table before me in the presence of my enemies;

you anoint my head with oil, and my cup is running over.

⁶**Surely goodness and mercy shall follow me all the days of my life,
and I will dwell in the house of the LORD forever.**

SECOND READING: Ephesians 2:11-22

L: A reading from Ephesians.

The author of this letter reminds his audience that originally, they were not part of God's chosen people. Through Jesus' death, however, they are included in God's household of faith, whose cornerstone is Jesus Christ.

¹¹Remember that at one time you Gentiles by birth, called "the uncircumcision" by those who are called "the circumcision"—a physical circumcision made in the flesh by human hands—

¹²remember that you were at that time without Christ, being aliens from the commonwealth of Israel, and strangers to the covenants of promise, having no hope and without God in the world.

¹³But now in Christ Jesus you who once were far off have been brought near by the blood of Christ. ¹⁴For he is our peace; in his flesh he has made both groups into one and has broken down the dividing wall, that is, the hostility between us. ¹⁵He has abolished the law with its commandments and ordinances, that he might create in himself one new humanity in place of the two, thus making peace, ¹⁶and might reconcile both groups to God in one body through the cross, thus putting to death that hostility through it. ¹⁷So he came and proclaimed peace to you who were far off and peace to those who were near; ¹⁸for through him both of us have access in one Spirit to the Father. ¹⁹So then you are no longer strangers and aliens, but you are citizens with the saints and also members of the household of God, ²⁰built upon the foundation of the apostles and prophets, with Christ Jesus himself as the cornerstone. ²¹In him the whole structure is joined together and grows into a holy temple in the Lord; ²²in whom you also are built together spiritually into a dwelling place for God.

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: Mark 6:30-34, 53-56

P: The holy gospel according to Mark.

C: Glory to you, O Lord.

When Jesus sends his disciples out to teach and heal, they minister among large numbers of people. Their work is motivated by Christ's desire to be among those in need.

³⁰The apostles gathered around Jesus, and told him all that they had done and taught. ³¹He said to them, "Come away to a deserted place all by yourselves and rest a while." For many were coming and going, and they had no leisure even to eat. ³²And they went away in the boat to a deserted place by themselves. ³³Now many saw them going and recognized them, and they hurried there on foot from all the towns and arrived ahead of them. ³⁴As he went ashore, he saw a great crowd; and he had compassion for them, because they were like sheep without a shepherd; and he began to teach them many things.

⁵³When they had crossed over, they came to land at Gennesaret and moored the boat. ⁵⁴When they got out of the boat, people at once recognized him, ⁵⁵and rushed about that whole region and began to bring the sick on mats to wherever they heard he was. ⁵⁶And wherever he went, into villages or cities or farms, they laid the sick in the marketplaces, and begged him that they might touch even the fringe of his cloak; and all who touched it were healed.

P: The gospel of the Lord.

C: Praise to you, O Christ.

SERMON

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: 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: Tend your church, O God. Encourage bishops, pastors, and deacons in their proclamation of the gospel. Raise up new leaders and encourage those pursuing a call to ministry. Embolden all the baptized to embody your love and justice. Hear us, O God.

C: Your mercy is great.

A: Restore your creation, O God. Sustain croplands and pastures and safeguard all farm animals and livestock. Preserve lakes, rivers, and streams that offer refreshment. Revive lands recovering from natural disasters and protect coastlands threatened by rising oceans. Hear us, O God.

C: Your mercy is great.

A: Reconcile the nations, O God. Break down the dividing walls that make us strangers to one another and unite us as one human family. Equip leaders to deal wisely with conflict and guide diplomats who seek peaceful solutions. Hear us, O God.

C: Your mercy is great.

A: Heal your people, O God. Look with compassion on immigrants, exiles, and all who are afraid or feel lost. Give rest to those who are weary, comfort to those who are grieving, and recovery to those who are ill (*especially*). Hear us, O God.

C: Your mercy is great.

A: Nourish this congregation, O God. Prepare a table where we receive food for our hungry spirits. Renew our commitment to provide for one another and revitalize our ministries of feeding and nurturing hungry neighbors. Hear us, O God.

C: Your mercy is great.

A: You lead us home, O God. We give thanks for all who have died, now citizens with the saints (*especially*). As you have received them into your heavenly home, so welcome all of us to dwell in your house forever. Hear us, O God.

C: Your mercy is great.

A: God of Creation, You have created the heavens and the earth. Bless the staff and campers of Camp Mount Luther as they wonder at the beauty of your creation. Help them make connections with you and the earth you have made. Lord, in your mercy,

C: Your mercy is great.

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

C: 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.

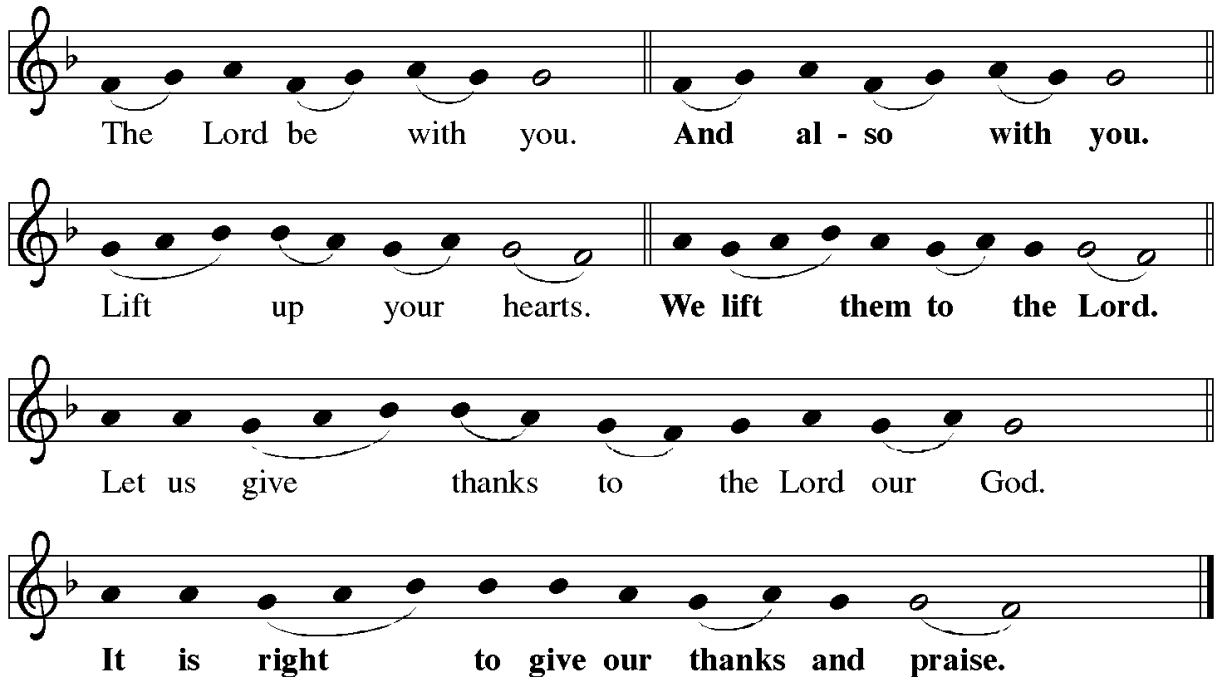
OFFERATORY

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.

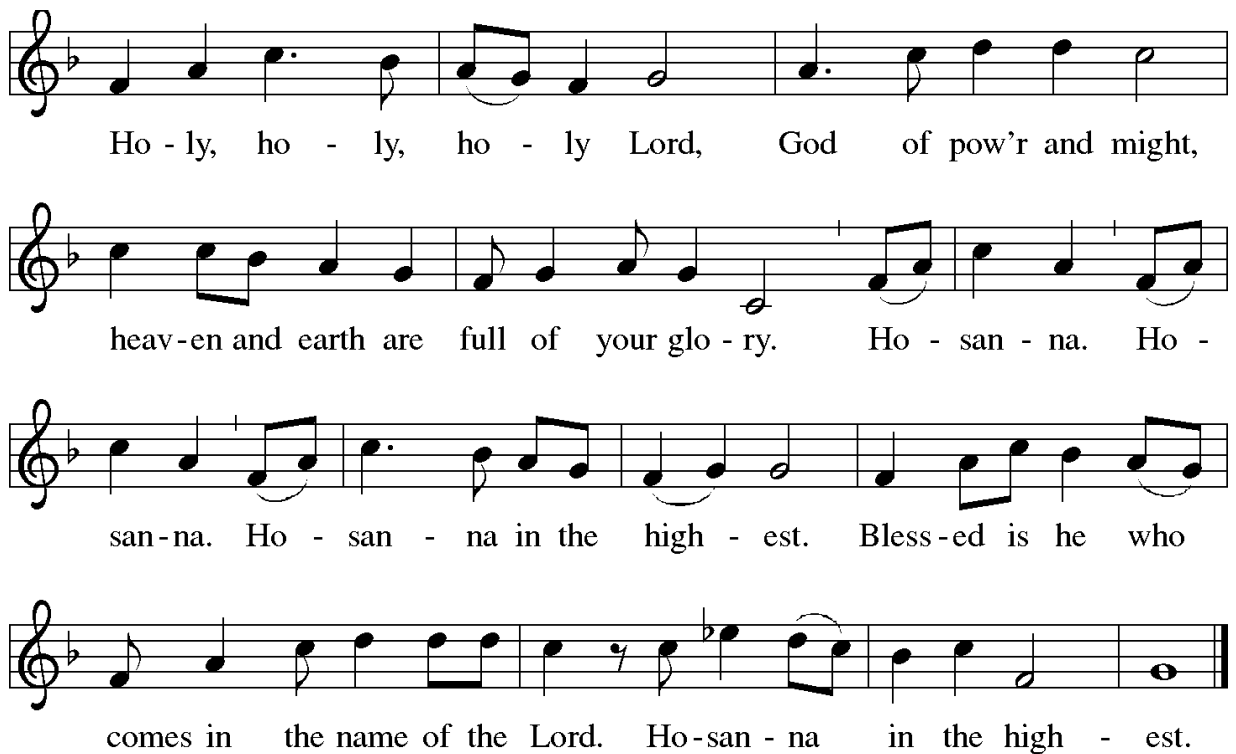
Lift up your hearts. We lift them to the Lord.

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,

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 is 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

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

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*

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: *Savior, like a Shepherd Lead Us (BRADBURY) (ELW 789)*

DISMISSAL

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

C: Thanks be to God.

POSTLUDE

Announcements

Conley T Myers, 82, yo., 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.

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–Shane Snyder; Assisting Ministers –Gary Johnson and Karen Aucker; Acolyte –Cora Stackhouse; Head Usher –Deb Heydrich; Teller –Cozette Stoltsfus; Bulletin Sponsor -Gary and Gina Johnson; Bread Sponsor –Jean Ann Snyder.

Next week's helpers: Lector –Deb Heydrich; Assisting Ministers -Joyce Braucht and Carl Schaefer; Acolyte –Clayton Hart; Head Usher -Deb Heydrich; Teller-Cozette Stoltzfus; Bulletin Sponsor -; Bread Sponsor –Jean Ann Snyder.

The altar flowers are given for the glory of God and in loving memory of Donald Breon given by Cynthia and family.

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.

LOST and FOUND

We found a ladies' silver ring in the church building. If you or someone you know have recently lost a silver ring, please call the church office at 570-398-1676. Thank you

Giving Plus+ Download the "Giving Plus+" app from your app store for your cell phone. This feature is 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. Now this feature is available. If you have any questions, contact Pastor or Scott Mitchell.



Give+ Text: 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 card holder 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. Give+ Text 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.

"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. Registration forms are available. This event is for all children ages 3 through completing 5th grade.

REMINDER: The **Global Mission Team** of the Upper Susquehanna Synod is inviting you to join us for an hour on Saturday, July 17 as we speak with ELCA missionary, Rev. Linda Johnson Seyenkulo. If you have always wanted to learn what our missionaries do in Liberia, here is your chance to “travel” with her and see what day to day life is like.

Rev. Linda is a busy pastor, teacher, wife and mother. Being married to the Bishop of the Lutheran Church of Liberia, she is also the “Mother” of the church which offers more opportunities and responsibilities to share the Gospel.

We will hear the challenges they have faced in the global pandemic and how they adjusted to offering ministry in the wake of COVID 19. Rev. Linda was unable to come to the U.S. last year, but is now visiting family in the U.S. The ELCA has asked that the missionaries not travel within the U.S. Therefore, she is unable to come to our synod or supporting congregations. But that won’t stop us from gathering via Zoom to hear what is going on with her and her work in Liberia!

This is a wonderful opportunity to hear and see a small bit of missionary life without leaving the comfort of your home. Please join us at 10AM, Saturday, July 17. Follow this link: Ann Zimmerman is inviting you to a scheduled Zoom meeting.

Topic: Missionary Life Rev. Linda Johnson Seyenkulo

Time: Jul 17, 2021 10:00 AM Eastern Time

Join Zoom Meeting

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/85483550726?pwd=MzBFd2Z5eINvTDYzWkZCU3FtR05mUT09>

Meeting ID: 854 8355 0726

Passcode: 050737

THIS WEEK’S EVENTS

Sunday, July 18, 2021

9:30 a.m. Nave Worship Service

7:00 p.m. NA meeting

8th Sunday after Pentecost

Tuesday, July 20, 2021

7:00 p.m. N.A. & A.A. Meetings

Wednesday, July 21, 2021

10:00 a.m. Prayer/Communion Trinity Episcopal Church

Friday, July 23, 2021

9:00 a.m. -1:00 p.m. Food Distribution

Sunday, July 25, 2021

9:30 a.m. Nave Worship Service

7:00 p.m. NA meeting

9th Sunday after Pentecost