

**St. John Evangelical Lutheran Church  
229 South Broad Street, Jersey Shore PA  
Sunday, July 4, 2021  
6<sup>th</sup> Sunday after Pentecost**

**Introduction to the day**

*Today we come to worship to reflect on the ways we have seen the hand of God at work in our nation and world. While we celebrate the freedoms we have as citizens of this fair nation on this Independence Day, we celebrate, too, the freedom from sin, death and the devil we have through Jesus as citizens of the kingdom of God. Let the powerful words of Scripture, the sermon and the hymns in this service remind us that we have a God who blesses with everlasting liberty all who cling to the cross of Christ.*

**JOYS AND CONCERNS**

**PRELUDE**

**STAND**

**Hymn** "Mine Eyes Have Seen the Glory"

ELW 890

***Mine eyes have seen the glory of the coming of the Lord;  
He is trampling out the vintage where the grapes of wrath are stored;  
He has loosed the fateful lightning of his terrible swift sword;  
His truth is marching on.  
Glory, glory! Hallelujah! Glory, glory! Hallelujah!  
Glory, glory! Hallelujah! His truth is marching on.***

P Glory to God in the highest, and peace to God's people on earth.

**C Christ's blood sets us free to be people of God. Hallelujah!**

P Give glory to God, whose strong hand and mighty arm have gained the victory.

**C Christ's blood sets us free to be people of God. Hallelujah!**

P In every circumstance, we are more than conquerors through the One who loved us.

**C Glory to God in the highest, and peace to God's people on earth.**

P In Christ Jesus, God had fashioned us to do those good things which will glorify the Father in heaven.

**C Christ's blood sets us free to be people of God. Hallelujah!**

P "Continue in my Word," the Savior said, "and you will know the truth, the truth that makes you free."

*He has sounded forth the trumpet that shall never call retreat;  
He is sifting out the hearts of men before his judgment seat.  
Oh, be swift, my soul, to answer him; be jubilant, my feet!  
Our God is marching on.  
Glory, glory! Hallelujah! Glory, glory! Hallelujah!  
Glory, glory! Hallelujah! His truth is marching on.*

**Prayer of the Day :**

**We laud and magnify your glorious name, O Lord, for saving your people and blessing our land. Through the suffering, death and resurrection of your Son, Jesus, you saved us who are your people from sin, death and the devil forever. By your grace, you now bless our land with freedom and liberty. For those who fought and died defending our nation and the freedoms we enjoy, we give you thanks, O Lord, and ask for your protection on all those who currently serve in our military forces. Guard and keep them all in your care. Amen.**

*In the beauty of the lilies Christ was born across the sea,  
With a glory in his bosom that transfigures you and me.  
As he died to make men holy, let us live to make men free;  
While God is marching on.  
Glory, glory! Hallelujah! Glory, glory! Hallelujah!  
Glory, glory! Hallelujah! His truth is marching on.*

**The First Reading, 1 Kings 8:54-58**

Now as Solomon finished offering all this prayer and plea to the Lord, he arose from before the altar of the Lord, where he had knelt with hands outstretched toward heaven. And he stood and blessed all the assembly of Israel with a loud voice, saying, “Blessed be the Lord who has given rest to his people Israel, according to all that he promised. Not one word has failed of all his good promise, which he spoke by Moses his servant. The Lord our God be with us, as he was with our fathers. May he not leave us or forsake us, that he may incline our hearts to him, to walk in all his ways and to keep his commandments, his statutes, and his rules, which he commanded our fathers.

- The **Psalmic Response** is sung by the congregation to the tune Regent Square 87 87 87 (Angels, from the Realm of Glory ELW 275)

*In the past our God did guide us Pilgrims in a new-found land.  
In his shelter God did hide us With a strong and saving hand.  
Glory, glory! Hallelujah! Firm upon his grace we stand!*

*Thank the Lord, his praises voicing For his promised faithfulness.  
All who seek the Lord, rejoicing, Walk in paths of righteousness.  
Glory, glory! Hallelujah! Shout his praise, his name confess.*

The **Second Reading**, 1 Timothy 2:1-6

First of all, then, I urge that supplications, prayers, intercessions, and thanksgivings be made for all people, for kings and all who are in high positions, that we may lead a peaceful and quiet life, godly and dignified in every way. This is good, and it is pleasing in the sight of God our Savior, who desires all people to be saved and to come to the knowledge of the truth. For there is one God, and there is one mediator between God and men, the man Christ Jesus, who gave himself as a ransom for all, which is the testimony given at the proper time.

The **Hymn** is sung by the congregation to the tune My Country, 'Tis of Thee:

*Come, thou almighty King, Help us thy name to sing; Help us to praise.  
Father all-glorious, O'er all victorious,  
Come and reign over us, Ancient of Days.*

*Come, thou incarnate Word, Gird on thy mighty sword; Our prayer attend.  
Come and thy people bless, And give thy Word success,  
And let thy righteousness On us descend.*

*Come, holy Comforter, Thy sacred witness bear In this glad hour!  
Thou, who almighty art, Now rule in ev'ry heart,  
And ne'er from us depart, Spirit of pow'r.*

**STAND**

The **Gospel Reading**, John 8:31-36,

So Jesus said to the Jews who had believed him, “If you abide in my word, you are truly my disciples, and you will know the truth, and the truth will set you free.” They answered him, “We are offspring of Abraham and have never been enslaved to anyone. How is it that you say, ‘You will become free?’” Jesus answered them, “Truly, truly, I say to you, everyone who practices sin is a slave to sin. The slave does not remain in the house forever; the son remains forever. So if the Son sets you free, you will be free indeed.

The **Gospel Response** is sung by the congregation to the tune My Country, 'Tis of Thee:  
*To thee, great One in Three, Eternal praises be Hence evermore!*  
*Thy sov'reign majesty May we in glory see,*  
*And to eternity Love and adore.*

- The **Homily for Independence Day** is delivered by the pastor:

A **Creedal Hymn** is sung by the congregation to the tune Melita 88 88 88:  
(Eternal Father, Strong to Save 756)

*In God we trust! Oh, may it be Throughout this land of liberty!*  
*Lord, turn our hearts from guilt and shame To bear with joy your sacred name.*  
*In ev'ry need, as well they must, Our hearts cry out, “In God we trust!”*

*In God we trust! For we have heard The news of your forgiving Word,*  
*The peace for which our Savior died, The Spirit's favors multiplied.*  
*For ev'ry blessing, true and just, Thankful we cry, “In God we trust!”*

*In God we trust! Oh, give us grace In you our confidence to place,*  
*To set our hearts on things above, To live as agents of your love,*  
*To conquer death, to rise from dust, To cry anew, “In God we trust!”*

## The Prayers :

Glory be to you, O God, for the blessings you provide in this most favored land.

Glory be to you for those who have gone before us, for those who worked and strove, who fought and died, that we might live in peace and liberty. Oh, make us worthy of our heritage, great God; help us to remember.

Glory be to you, O God, for the blessings that continue to surround us. Make us responsible stewards of your bounty, that all may have a share in your goodness and come to know your love.

Let your blessing rest upon those among us who are in need or want of any kind. [*Specific names and causes may be named here.*] In your great mercy, bless them with your grace and power, that they may come to join in singing, “Hallelujah!”

Glory be to you, O God, for the Gospel of Jesus Christ, the message of his labor in our behalf, his death for our redemption, his resurrection and rule. Let that glorious message be proclaimed freely through this land of liberty, that we may joyfully acknowledge your lordship and faithfully live according to your will.

Glory be to you, O God! So, continue to bless us on our pilgrim way that, when you call us hence at last, we may join the heavenly chorus—there where we have our true citizenship—and sing forever, “Glory! Glory! Hallelujah!”

## 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*

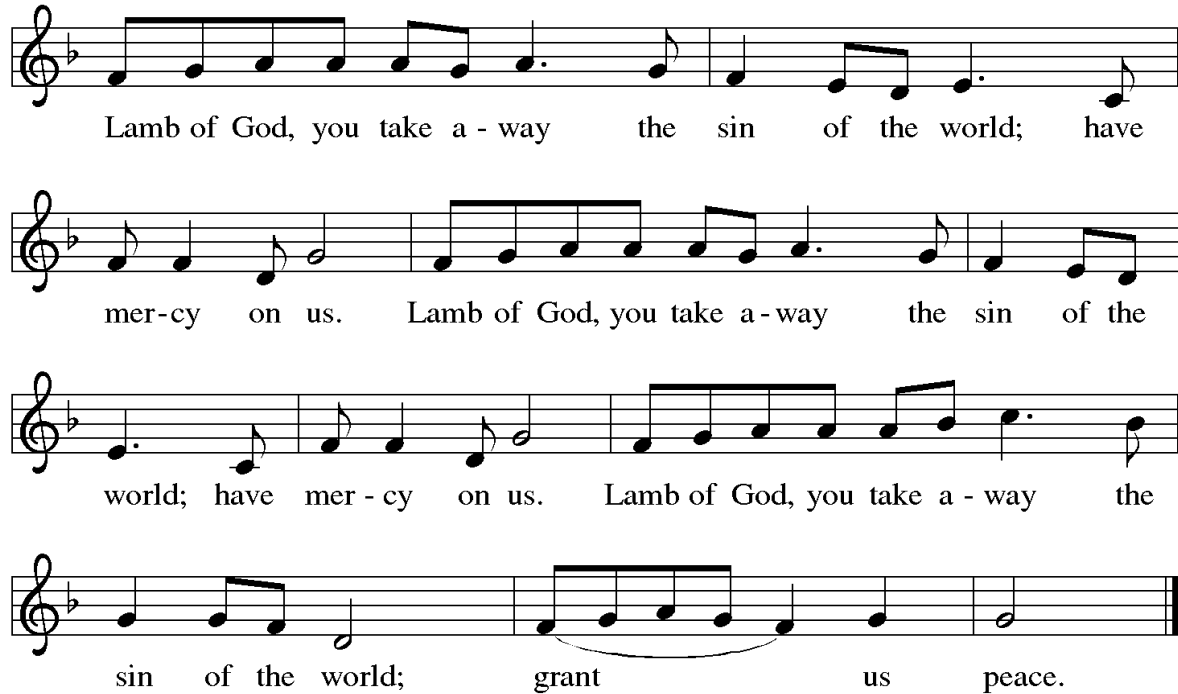
The body of Christ, given for you.

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.**



**A Benediction**, from Psalm 67,

P God, be merciful to us and bless us; make your face to shine upon us,

**C that your way may be known upon earth, your saving power among all nations.**

P Let the peoples praise you, O God; let all the peoples praise you.

**C The earth has yielded its increase; God, our God, has blessed us.**

P May God continue to bless us. May people everywhere honor him.

The **Closing Hymn** is sung by the congregation to the tune Taps 6 9 6 3:

*God of love, from above, Shine your face; may your grace  
Still increase. Stretch your hand o'er our land;  
Grant us peace.*

*Shepherd dear, kindly hear: Guard and keep all your sheep  
Far and near; Firmly hold in your fold,  
Free from fear.*

*Spirit true, shine anew With God's light beaming bright  
In each heart. Be God's Word gladly heard;  
Faith impart.*

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## *Announcements*

*We extend our sympathies to the family of Walt Gallagher who died Saturday, June 19, 2021. A graveside service will be held this week.*

Remember in prayer: Rowen Aldridge, Luke Antolick, Connie Barker, Bob Braucht, Mike Cervinsky, Rev. Dr. Roger Fisher, Dawn Hauser, Linda and Ralph Lehman, David Mitchell, Ginny Moffitt, 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, 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.

Jane Shaffer has been moved to Roseview Nursing Home in Williamsport.  
Dave Kuehl has been moved to Encompass Health, Pleasant Gap.

Special Thanks to this week's helpers: Lectors –Kathy Brundick; Assisting Ministers - Deb Heydrich and Ron Brundick; Acolyte –Dominic Dittmar; Head Usher -Deb Heydrich; Teller-Cozette Stoltzfus; Bulletin sponsor -; Bread sponsor - Jean Ann Snyder.

Next week's helpers: Lector –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.

*The altar flowers are given to the Glory of God and in honor of my dearest and best friend on her July 6<sup>th</sup> birthday. Love to the most kind, caring, faithful and patriotic person I know. Happy Birthday Joyce! Love you, Becky*

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 church blanket graduation gift and the graduation tea. It was very thoughtful, Thanks again, Riley Welshans*

### **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 4, 2021

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

*Independence Day*

9:30 a.m. Nave Worship Service

7:00 p.m. NA meeting

Tuesday, July 6, 2021

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

Wednesday, July 7, 2021

10:00 a.m. Prayer/Communion @ Trinity

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

