

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

Sunday, April 3, 2022

5th Sunday of Lent
Service of Healing



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

Introduction to the day

Our God makes all things new. In the first reading God promises it. In the gospel Mary anticipates it, anointing Jesus' feet with costly perfume in preparation for the day of his burial. In the second reading Paul recalls his transformation from the persecutor Saul into an apostle. In baptism, God's new person (you!) rises daily from the deadly mire of trespasses and sins.

SHARING OUR JOYS AND CONCERNS

PRELUDE

The assembly stands.

Hymn Great is Thy Faithfulness ELW 733

PRAYER OF THE DAY

P: Let us pray.

Creator God, you prepare a new way in the wilderness, and your grace waters our desert. Open our hearts to be transformed by the new thing you are doing, that our lives may proclaim the extravagance of your love given to all through your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

The assembly is seated.

WORD

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

FIRST READING: Isaiah 43:16-21

The prophet declares that long ago God performed mighty deeds and delivered Israel from Egyptian bondage through the waters of the sea. Now, God is about to do a new thing, bringing the exiles out of Babylon and through the wilderness in a new Exodus.

¹⁶Thus says the LORD,

 who makes a way in the sea,

 a path in the mighty waters,

¹⁷who brings out chariot and horse, army and warrior;

they lie down, they cannot rise,
they are extinguished, quenched like a wick:
¹⁸Do not remember the former things,
or consider the things of old.
¹⁹I am about to do a new thing;
now it springs forth, do you not perceive it?
I will make a way in the wilderness
and rivers in the desert.
²⁰The wild animals will honor me,
the jackals and the ostriches;
for I give water in the wilderness,
rivers in the desert,
to give drink to my chosen people,
²¹the people whom I formed for myself
so that they might declare my praise.

L: The word of the Lord.

C: **Thanks be to God.**

PSALM: 126

¹When the LORD restored the fortunes of Zion,
then were we like those who dream.
²**Then was our mouth filled with laughter, and our tongue with shouts of joy.**
Then they said among the nations, "The LORD has done great things for them."
³The LORD has done great things for us,
and we are glad indeed.
⁴**Restore our fortunes, O LORD,**
like the watercourses of the Negeb.
⁵Those who sowed with tears
will reap with songs of joy.
⁶**Those who go out weeping, carrying the seed,**
will come again with joy, shouldering their sheaves.

Second Reading: Philippians 3:4b-14

Writing to Christians in Philippi, Paul admits that his heritage and reputation could give him more reason than most people to place confidence in his spiritual pedigree. But the overwhelming grace of God in Jesus calls Paul to a new set of values.

[Paul writes:] ^{4b}If anyone else has reason to be confident in the flesh, I have more: ⁵circumcised on the eighth day, a member of the people of Israel, of the tribe of Benjamin, a Hebrew born of Hebrews; as to the law, a Pharisee; ⁶as to zeal, a persecutor of the church; as to righteousness under the law, blameless.

⁷Yet whatever gains I had, these I have come to regard as loss because of Christ. ⁸More than that, I regard everything as loss because of the surpassing value of knowing Christ Jesus my Lord. For his sake I have suffered the loss of all things, and I regard them as rubbish, in order that I may gain Christ ⁹and be found in him, not having a righteousness of my own that comes from the law, but one that comes through faith in Christ, the righteousness from God based on faith. ¹⁰I want to know Christ and the power of his resurrection and the sharing of his sufferings

by becoming like him in his death, ¹¹if somehow I may attain the resurrection from the dead.

¹²Not that I have already obtained this or have already reached the goal; but I press on to make it my own, because Christ Jesus has made me his own. ¹³Beloved, I do not consider that I have made it my own; but this one thing I do: forgetting what lies behind and straining forward to what lies ahead, ¹⁴I press on toward the goal for the prize of the heavenly call of God in Christ Jesus.

L: The word of the Lord.

C: Thanks be to God.

The assembly stands.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION



Re - turn to the Lord, your God, for he is gra - cious and
mer - ci - ful, slow to an - ger, and a - bound - ing in
stead - fast love, and a - bound - ing in stead - fast love.

P: The holy gospel according to John.

C: Glory to you, O Lord.

Gospel: John 12:1-8

Judas willfully misinterprets as waste Mary's extravagant act of anointing Jesus' feet with costly perfume. Jesus recognizes that her lavish gift is both an expression of love and an anticipation of his burial.

¹Six days before the Passover Jesus came to Bethany, the home of Lazarus, whom he had raised from the dead. ²There they gave a dinner for him. Martha served, and Lazarus was one of those at the table with him. ³Mary took a pound of costly perfume made of pure nard, anointed Jesus' feet, and wiped them with her hair. The house was filled with the fragrance of the perfume. ⁴But Judas Iscariot, one of his disciples (the one who was about to betray him), said, ⁵"Why was this perfume not sold for three hundred denarii and the money given to the poor?" ⁶(He said this not because he cared about the poor, but because he was a thief; he kept the common purse and used to steal what was put into it.) ⁷Jesus said, "Leave her alone. She bought it so that she might keep it for the day of my burial. ⁸You always have the poor with you, but you do not always have me."

P: The gospel of the Lord. **C: Praise to you, O Christ.**

The assembly is seated.

SERMON “Heal Us O Lord of Life”

Service of Healing

Dialog:

Behold, now is the acceptable time;
now is the day of salvation.

Return to the Lord, your God,
**who is gracious and merciful,
slow to anger and abounding in steadfast love.**

God forgives you all your sins,
and heals all your infirmities.

God satisfies you with good things,
and your youth is renewed like an eagles.

Bless the Lord, O my soul,
and all that is within me, bless God’s holy name.

P: Our Lord Jesus healed many as a sign of the reign of God come near and sent the disciples to continue this work of healing—with prayer, the laying on of hands, and anointing. In the name of Christ, the great healer and reconciler of the world, we now entrust to God all who are in need of healing.

Prayers of Intercession

A: God the Father, your will for all people is health and salvation;

C: We praise you and thank you, O Lord.

A: God the Son, you came that we might have life, and might have it more abundantly.

C: We praise you and thank you, O Lord.

A: God the Holy Spirit, you make us bodies and temples of your presence;

C: We praise you and thank you, O Lord.

A: Holy Trinity, one God, in you we live and move and have our being;

C: We praise you and thank you, O Lord.

A: Lord, grant your healing grace to all who are sick, injured, or disabled,
that they may be made whole;

C: Hear us, O Lord of life.

A: Grant to all who serve, your guidance, and to all who are lonely, anxious or despondent, a
knowledge of your will and an awareness of your presence;

C: Hear us, O Lord of life.

A: Mend broken relationships and restore those in emotional distress to soundness of mind and
serenity of spirit;

C: Hear us, O Lord of life.

A: Bless physicians, nurses and all others who minister to the suffering, granting them wisdom and skill, sympathy and patience; especially we rememberand those we name before you (Petitions may be voiced)

C: Hear us, O Lord of life.

A: Grant to the dying peace and a holy death, and uphold by grace and consolation of your Holy Spirit those who are bereaved;

C: Hear us, O Lord of life.

A: Restore to wholeness whatever is broken by human sin in our lives, in our nation, and in the world;

C: Hear us, O Lord of life.

A: You are the Lord who does wonders;

C: You have declared your power among the nations.

A: With you, O Lord, is the well of life;

C: And in your light we see light.

A: Hear us, O Lord of Life;

C: Heal us, and make us whole.

P: Gracious God, in baptism you anointed us with the oil of salvation, and joined us to the death and resurrection of your Son. Bless all who seek your healing presence in their lives. In their suffering draw them more deeply into the mystery of your love, that following Christ in the way of the cross they may know the triumphant power of his resurrection; who lives and reigns for ever and ever.

C: Amen.

Laying On of Hands

P: All who wish to receive the Laying on of Hands and Anointing may come forward at this time. This service is not just for physical healing but a prayer for spiritual and emotional healing and wholeness as well. Sisters and brothers, I invite you to come and receive a sign of healing and wholeness in the name of the triune God.

Those who wish to receive the Laying on of Hands and be anointed with olive oil may come forward and stand or kneel at the railing. Please stand in single line and hold your hair to the side if your hair comes down over your forehead. The Pastor will make the sign of the cross on your forehead. If you cannot come to the front, tell an usher, who will inform the Pastor so he can come to you.

HYMN OF THE DAY: Healer of Our Every Ill (ELW 612)

You are invited to meditate on Psalms 86-92

After all have returned to their places, the presiding minister continues.

The assembly stands.

Let us pray.

Living God, through the laying on of hands [and anointing],
grant comfort in suffering to all who are in need of healing.

When they are afraid, give them courage;

when afflicted, give them patience;

when dejected, give them hope;

and when alone, assure them of the support of your holy people.

We ask this through Christ our Lord.

Amen.

The assembly is seated.

Responding in Love

Our Offerings *This is our response to God's grace.*

Our Offering of Music

CHOIR ANTHEM *Now We Remain*

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: Extravagant God,

you have blessed us with the fullness of creation.

Now we gather at your feast

where you offer us the food that satisfies.

Take and use what we offer here, come among us,

and feed us with the body and blood of Christ,

in whose name we pray. **Amen.**

GREAT THANKSGIVING P.144 *(in the beginning of the hymnal)*

Dialogue

Preface by the Pastor

Holy Holy Holy

THANKSGIVING AT THE TABLE

Holy God, our living Water and our merciful Guide,

together with rivers and seas, wells and springs we bless and magnify you.

You led your people Israel through the desert,

and provided them water from the rock.

We praise you for Christ, our Rock and our Water,
who joined us in our desert, pouring out his life for the world.

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 life, death, and resurrection,
we await your salvation for all this thirsty world.
Pour out your Spirit on this holy food and on all the baptized gathered for this feast:
wash away our sin, that we may be revived for our journey by the love of Christ.
Through him all glory and honor is yours,
Almighty Father, with the Holy Spirit, in your holy Church,
both 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: Here is food and drink for the journey.
Take and be filled.

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: Blessed Jesus,
in this rich meal of grace,
you have fed us with your body, the bread of life.
Now send us forth to bear your life-giving hope
to a world in need. **Amen.**

SENDING

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

BLESSING

You are children of God,
anointed with the oil of gladness
and strengthened for the journey.
Almighty God,
motherly, majestic, and mighty,
✠ bless you this day and always. **Amen.**

SENDING SONG: *Beneath the Cross of Jesus 338*

DISMISSAL

P: Go in peace. Jesus meets you on the way.
C: **Thanks be to God.**

We extend our sympathies to the family of Lower C “Skip” Wagner who died on March 26, 2022. The funeral was on Saturday, April 2, 2022 with interment at Linnwood, McElhattan.

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, Mary Bower, Mike Cervinsky, Agnes Cryder, Don Delaney, Mary Ellen Dougherty, Charlie Dunne, William Greene, Fred Hoffer, Mick Miller, David Mitchell, Jean Ann Snyder, 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.

Special thanks to this week’s helpers: Lector –Kathy Brundick; Assisting Ministers –Deb Heydrich and Ron Brundick; Head Usher –Cozette Stoltzfus; Teller –Jim Ely; Bulletin Sponsor – Jim Ely; Children’s Church –Pam Wehler;

Next week’s helpers: Lector –Darlene Bilby; Assisting Ministers – Bill Ely Jr and Ken Dougherty;; Head Usher – Cozette Stoltzfus; Teller –Jim Ely; Bulletin Sponsor – Jim Ely ; Children’s Church – Molly Hollick. Flowers – Molly Hollick.

The altar flowers are given in memory of loved ones by Rev. Dr. Kerry and Karen Aucker.

The Sanctuary Candle is given in memory of our parents by Gary and Gina Johnson.

HELP NEEDED FOR VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL !!! Summer is approaching fast. It is St John’s year to host Bible School. We earnestly need a volunteer to HEAD VBS! Four other churches join us. We need a volunteer to organize the five churches by setting up meetings with representatives from those churches. The women of St. Johns will work, support, and assist, but we need a VOLUNTEER TO HEAD Vacation Bible School this summer. Questions or concerns can be directed to Pastor Aucker (570) 916-1317 or Gloria Ely (570) 873-3597. Please pray that someone is moved to accept this position so that we can have Bible School.

PLEASE HELP THE EASTER BUNNY !! Candy donations are needed for the annual Easter Egg Hunt on April 16. Please turn in your donations by Tuesday, April 12.

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 - 570-398-28

Lent Services

Note the change. We will meet in-person at 6:30 pm

Lent 5 at Garman – Tuesday, April 5, “Confession and Communion”

Pastors Shumway and Aucker will be covering the book: Life Together by Dietrich Bonhoeffer. Life Together is a theme that I have been hearing a lot as congregations struggle to meet in-person in the midst of the pandemic. A copy of the book is available from either Pastor or in the tower at St. John. Donations for the books are appreciated.

Palm Sunday – Sunday, April 10, 9:30 a.m. St. John Sanctuary

Maundy Thursday, April 14, 7:00 p.m., St. John Sanctuary
Good Friday, April 15, 7:00 p.m., St. James Lutheran, "Stations of the Cross"
Easter Sunrise, April 17, 6:00 a.m. with Fairplay Brass and breakfast, and 9:30 a.m., St. John Sanctuary.

Mr. Dutch Rinker, Authorized Lay Worship Leader at Zion Lutheran in Renovo has completed three years of classes and internship and has been approved by the USS Synod Candidacy Committee for ordination. His current plans are to be ordained at Zion Lutheran Church in Renovo on Saturday, April 9, at 2:00 pm.

If anybody is going to Dutch's Ordination and can provide a ride for a person from Jersey Shore, Ann Coffin, 570-809-2881, really wants to go to Dutch's service but needs a ride. Call her if you can provide her a ride.

Payments for Sight and Sound "DAVID" February 6 - \$65.00; May 1 - \$65.00 and the final payment June 17 - \$60 Fare includes bus, play, meal, tip for driver and fund raiser for Luke Antolick. The show is August 6, 2022 -- Children 10 and under \$125.00; Adults \$190.00. Joyce Braucht.

Just a reminder: **The deadline for applications to Camp Mt. Luther is April 10** which is not that far away. If you are an active youth of St. John, we encourage you to attend Camp Mt. Luther. Applications are available on the bench of the Thompson street entrance. Applications **MUST** be returned to the church office by April 10.

Cathy Eisner / Youth are in need of **20 empty egg cartons** by April 10. Please save, gather, bring them in!!

Volunteers are needed for the Palm Sunday Passion Reading. Leave Pastor know if you can read. Needed for the reading of the Passion of our Lord Jesus Christ on April 10.

Serving-maid -- Kaye Long	Peter - Carl Shaffer
First Challenger - Pam Wehler	Second Challenger - Dawn McClosky
Jesus - Deb Heydrich	Pilate - volunteer needed.
Centurion - volunteer needed	

Pray for Peace in Ukraine and an end to war.

Youth Ministry

Easter Egg Hunt Our annual egg hunt for the elementary children will be held on Saturday, April 16 at 11:00 a.m.

Youth Group for all Middle School and High School Youth

April 25, 6:00 p.m. Theme: Earth Day and God's Creation. Supper provided.

THIS WEEK'S EVENTS

Sunday, April 3, 2022

5th Sunday of Lent

9:30 a.m. Children's Church begins

9:30 a.m. Nave Worship Service

Tuesday, April 5, 2022

6:30 p.m. Lent 5 at Garman "Confession and Communion"

7:30 p.m. Council Meeting

Wednesday, April 6, 2022

10:00 a.m. Trinity Episcopal Worship

6:30 p.m. Choir Rehearsal

Sunday, April 10, 2022

Palm Sunday

9:30 a.m. Children's Church begins

Sunday of Passion

9:30 a.m. Nave Worship Service

