

Worship Guide - May 23
9:30 AM worship
A Pentecost Service of Scripture and Song
Janet's last Sunday

PRE-SERVICE MUSIC

Psalm XIX – arr. Mays
Prelude to Te Deum – arr. Charpentier
Sonata in F Major, 1. Allemande - arr. Mays
Thine is the Glory – arr. Hobby
Suite Brass Ensemble

WELCOME

LIGHTING OF THE TRINITY CANDLE

St. John's is a community that is
Ignited by Spirit, Growing in Love.
We begin our worship in the name of the Father,
the Son and the Holy Spirit. **Amen**

GATHERING SONG: ELW 627 O Day Full of Grace

O day full of grace that now we see
appearing on earth's horizon,
bring light from our God that we may be
abundant in joy this season.
God, shine for us now in this dark place;
your name on our hearts emblazon.

God came to us then at Pentecost,
the Spirit new life revealing,
that we might no more in death be lost,
its pow'r over us dispelling.
This flame will the mark of sin efface
and bring to us all true healing.

Text: Scandinavian folk hymn; tr. Gerald Thorson, 1921-2001, alt.
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DIALOGUE

After fifty days of Easter rejoicing, the church cries out:
Come, Holy Spirit!
All those living in resurrection light sing with joy:
Come, Holy Spirit!
All those dying under the weight of sin and grief plead:
Come, Holy Spirit!
Come, Holy Spirit: fill the hearts of your faithful people,
and kindle in us the fire of your love.

OPENING PRAYER

Almighty and ever-living God, you fulfilled the promise of Easter by sending the gift of your Holy Spirit. Look upon your people gathered in prayer, open to receive the Spirit's flame. May it come to rest in our hearts and heal the divisions of word and tongue, that with one voice and one song we may praise your name in joy and thanksgiving; through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

Amen.

SCRIPTURE AND SONG

FIRST LESSON: Genesis 11:1-9

MUSICAL OFFERING Immortal, Invisible, God Only Wise
Handbell Choir

Hymns and Spiritual Songs, arr. Anna Laura Page
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SECOND LESSON: Exodus 19:1-9

HYMN ELW 396 Spirit of Gentleness

Spirit, Spirit of gentleness,
blow through the wilderness calling and free;
Spirit, Spirit of restlessness,
stir me from placidness, wind, wind on the sea.

You moved on the waters, you called to the deep,
then you coaxed up the mountains from the valleys of sleep;
and over the eons you called to each thing:
"Awake from your slumbers and rise on your wings."

Spirit, Spirit of gentleness,
blow through the wilderness calling and free;
Spirit, Spirit of restlessness,
stir me from placidness, wind, wind on the sea.

Text: James K. Manley, b. 1940
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THIRD LESSON: Numbers 11:24-30

HYMN W/P 129 Spirit of the Living God

Spirit of the Living God,
Fall fresh on me,
Spirit of the Living God,
Fall fresh on me.

Melt me, mold me,
Fill me, use me.
Spirit of the Living God,
Fall fresh on me.

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FOURTH LESSON: Ezekiel 37:1-14

MUSICAL OFFERING Dry Bones – arr. Hayes
Kevin Schanely

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CHILDREN'S SERMON

FIFTH LESSON: Romans 8:14-17, 22-27

HYMN ELW 752 Lord, Listen to Your Children Praying

Lord, listen to your children praying,
 Lord, send your Spirit in this place;
 Lord, listen to your children praying,
 send us love, send us pow'r, send us grace.

Repeat

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SIXTH LESSON: John 20:19-23

MUSICAL OFFERING Peace Be with You - arr. Keveren
Meghan Carlin, soprano

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SEVENTH LESSON: Acts 2:1-21

HYMN ELW 400 God of Tempest, God of Whirlwind

God of tempest, God of whirlwind,
as on Pentecost descend!
Drive us out from sheltered comfort;
past these walls your people send!
Sweep us into costly service,

there with Christ to bear the cross,
there with Christ to bear the cross!

God of earthquake, God of thunder,
shake us loose from lethargy!
Break the chains of sin asunder,
for earth's healing set us free!
Crumble walls that still divide us;
make us one in Christ our Lord,
make us one in Christ our Lord!

Text: Herman G. Stuempfle Jr., b. 1923

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STATEMENT OF FAITH

On this birthday of the church, as we celebrate the gift of the Spirit, we share Martin Luther's explanation to the third article of the creed to speak of how that Spirit works in our lives of faith.

I believe that by my own understanding or strength I cannot believe in Jesus Christ my Lord or come to him, but instead the Holy Spirit has called me through the gospel, enlightened me with his gifts, made me holy and kept me in the true faith, just as he calls, gathers, enlightens, and makes holy the whole Christian church on earth and keeps it with Jesus Christ in the one common, true faith. Daily in this Christian church the Holy Spirit abundantly forgives all sins—mine and those of all believers. On the last day the Holy Spirit will raise me and all the dead and will give to me and all believers in Christ eternal life. This is most certainly true.

RESPONSIVE PRAYER

Our innermost being waits for you,
our helper and our shield.
Let your lovingkindness be upon us,
even as we place our hope in you.
Create in me a clean heart, O God,
and renew a right spirit within 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 sustain me with your bountiful Spirit.
You send forth your Spirit, and your works are created,
and so you renew the face to the earth.

LORD'S PRAYER

As Jesus taught us, we are bold to pray,
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.

MUSICAL OFFERING

Farewell

Gaelic Folk tune from the Scottish Highlands– arr. Aldinger
Janet Aldinger, harp

ANNOUNCEMENTS

CELEBRATION OF MINISTRY

BLESSING

May the Spirit of the living Christ
fill you with faith and trust,
burn in you with the fire of love,
enliven your bones, body, and life,
and breathe through you the breath of life.
Almighty God, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit,
bless you now and forever.

Amen.

Let us bless the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

SENDING SONG ELW 851 When In Our Music God Is Glorified.

When in our music God is glorified,
and adoration leaves no room for pride,
it is as though the whole creation cried:
Alleluia!

So has the church, in liturgy and song,
in faith and love, through centuries of wrong,
borne witness to the truth in ev'ry tongue:
Alleluia!

Text: Fred Pratt Green, 1903-2000

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DISMISSAL

Go in peace. Share the good news.

Thanks be to God.

POSTLUDE

Ode to Joy – arr. Zimmerman
Suite Brass Ensemble

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Prelude to Te Deum –

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Ode to Joy - The Church Instrumentalist, The Kings Brass Catalog, Composer: Beethoven, L., Arranger: Zimmerman, T.
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Please continue to keep the following people connected to our congregation in your prayers:

Alex Kunkel, Bob Moran, Betsy Rodger, Robin Seasock, Paige Seasock, Peyton Seasock, Nancy Terpoilli, Brian Allebach, Glen Van Dyke, Charles Krupp, Jean Leister, Kenny Nace, Tom Ciesielka, Ann Brown Hager, Alyssa Gegan, David Mounts, Ann Lewis, Carolyn Iris, Melissa Snyder, Sandy Umstead, Theresa Hasson, Renaud Fix, Theresa Gross, Lynda Lysoby, David and Linda Kratzer, Leah Crater, Leanne Kratzer and Steve Keyser.

OUR RESPONSE TO GOD'S LOVE

Worship Attendance 5/16/2021 – Zoom - 45 households		
Giving Amounts	Total received between 4/25-5/8/2021	Amount Needed between 4/25-5/8/2021
General Fund	\$6,702.82	\$11,216
Building Fund	\$560.14	
<i>Weekly average is based on the 2021 budget. A weekly building fund amount needed is no longer reported as the building fund has been used for the mortgage, which has been paid off. All other building expenses are included in General Fund budget and giving. The above numbers include electronic giving. Mint duty is being done every other week for the time being.</i>		

Capital Campaign Activity Update	
Capital Campaign Contributions Pledged	\$ 260,000.00
Capital Campaign Contributions received between 3/14/4/3/2021	\$150
Capital Campaign Contributions received to date	\$ 250,204.65
A gift to the general fund was received in memory of John "Tim" Weldner from Allan & Margaret Voorhis.	

This Week at St. John's

Mon, May 24th 7:30pm Executive Committee Meeting (zoom)
 Wed, May 26th 7:30pm Confirmation (zoom)
 Sun, May 30th 9:30am Worship (zoom)



Graduate Recognition Sunday

On June 6, we will take time during worship to recognize our graduates – whether that be preschool/kindergarten, elementary school, middle school, high school, college or graduate school graduates. If you would like for your graduate to be recognized on June 6, please submit the following information to the church office by Sunday, May 30:

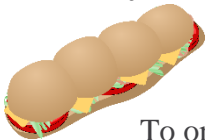
- Student's name and where he/she is graduating from.
- Where student is headed next (school, work, military, etc.)
- A picture of the graduate



Help wanted! Warm weather is here and the grass is growing. We are looking for people who are willing to mow or do some weed wacking around the church property.

If you are willing to pitch in, please call or email Vikki at the church office (215-234-4888 or stj.stown@verizon.net).

Order your Hoagies by Thursday, June 10th



Italian \$6 Turkey \$7

Can be ordered with or without onions and banana peppers

To order your June hoagie please contact Elaine Keller by phone (215.262.5366) or email elaineakeller@comcast.net before June 10 for a June 17th pick up. If you have any questions about the hoagies or our trips, please contact Elaine.

The Book Club will meet on **Tuesday, June 8 7pm** we are reading *This Tender Land* by William Kent Krueger

The unforgettable story of four orphans who travel the Mississippi River on a life-changing odyssey during the Great Depression. In the summer of 1932, on the banks of Minnesota's Gilead River, Odie O'Banion is an orphan confined to the Lincoln Indian Training School, a pitiless place where his lively nature earns him the superintendent's wrath. Forced to flee after committing a terrible crime, he and his brother, Albert, their best friend, Mose, and a brokenhearted little girl named Emmy steal away in a canoe, heading for the mighty Mississippi and a place to call their own. Over the course of one summer, these four orphans journey into the unknown and cross paths with others who are adrift, from struggling farmers and traveling faith healers to displaced families and lost souls of all kinds. With the feel of a modern classic, *This Tender Land* is an enthralling, big-hearted epic that shows how the magnificent American landscape connects us all, haunts our dreams, and makes us whole.

We plan to meet around the fire pit at church, but if the weather doesn't cooperate or you are not comfortable meeting in person connect via zoom:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/87058916584?pwd=bDV3dGI5YWZtVGM2YXZmZzRadWJTZz09>

MISSING COOLER - The YPO cooler is missing. It's blue with a white top, it has wheels and an extendable handle. If you have borrowed it, please return it to the church. It is needed.

New Dates available! Meal Train for Brian & Jennifer Allebach



As you may be aware, Brian Allebach, former chancel choir director at St. John's, was diagnosed with ALS in 2019. As the disease progresses and life changes for the Allebachs each week, we are hoping to support them in whatever ways we can. A meal train, to provide a meal on Saturdays, has been started. To access the meal train sign-up, see what dates are available and find out all the pertinent

information, see the weekly email or contact the church office.

Brian also loves to receive cards - so feel free to drop one in the mail to their home address, which is: Brian Allebach, 1096 Soffa Road, East Greenville, PA 18041

Thank you for your tender care for this family at this challenging time - and watch for new ways to be present with and for them in the months to come.



Make Music Upper Perk is back in person on Monday June 21st! This year, the music is all outdoors. A lucky thirteen venues are hosting music throughout the day, some as early as 9 a.m., and others as late as 9 p.m. You can find music at the new Community Garden, the YMCA (including Meghan Carlin!), Java and Friends, Steep Teas/Frozen Treat, Pennsburg UCC, Bike and Sol, the Upper Perk Valley Library at Centennial Park, Wunderbarn, M& J Gourmet, St Mark's Lutheran Lawn,

Chiaro's Green Lane, Mario's Pizza, New Goshenhoppen Park. All over the Valley, there is something for everyone.

To find exactly which musicians at what times and in each location, go to

[ValleyArtScene@wordpress.com](http://ValleyArtScene.wordpress.com). As always, all events are free and open to the public.