

August 8, 2021

9:30 AM Worship

Eleventh Sunday after Pentecost



I've been
meaning
to ask...

where does it hurt?

WORSHIP NOTES

Pentecost is the season of the church year that lasts the longest – it begins with the celebration of the Day of Pentecost, the third major festival of the church year with Christmas and Easter and continues for months. Since the season of Pentecost stretches over the entire summer into the fall, the church has labeled it Ordinary Time and the color for this season is green. Green because it's a season of growing – a season when the church focuses on how to be church in light of the Ascension of Jesus. It's also a season that focuses on our discipleship, as we seek to be committed followers of Jesus. There are a few festivals that dot the ordinary season of Pentecost – some at the beginning and some near the end. Towards the beginning, we have the Day of Pentecost, with its fiery imagery of doves and wind and Holy Trinity Sunday, the only Sunday in the church year that is dedicated to a doctrine of the church. Towards the end of the season of Pentecost, there are three festivals we lift up – Reformation, All Saints' Sunday and Christ the King Sunday.

PRAYER LIST

Please continue to keep the following people connected to our congregation in your prayers: Alex Kunkel, Bob Moran, Betsy Rodger, Nancy Terpoilli, Brian Allebach, 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, David and Linda Kratzer, Leah Crater, Leanne Kratzer, Steve Keyser, Bev Fretz, Jim McNally, Richard Mariner, Sydney Crossin and Florence Van Dyke.

Names are kept on the prayer list for three weeks unless specifically requested by the family or for those struggling through long-term illness or treatment. If you would like to add a name to the prayer list, please contact the church office at 215-234-4888 or stj.stown@verizon.net.

+ GATHERING +

WELCOME

PRELUDE

Fantasia – Johann Pachelbel

Please rise in body or spirit.

CALL TO WORSHIP

Here in this space,

we wear our hearts on our sleeves.

There is no use in filters or walls.

This space is an authentic space.

This space is a brave space.

For when it comes to God,

we are always invited to bring our full selves into the room.

So come into this space with your hurt and your joy,

your prayers and your dreams.

All of God's children are welcome here.

Let us worship Holy God.

OPENING HYMN ELW 470

Draw us in the Spirit's Tether

Draw us in the Spirit's Tether, for when humbly in your name

two or three are met together, you are in the midst of them.

Alleluia! Alleluia! Touch we now your garment's hem.

All our meals and all our living make as sacraments of you,

that by caring, helping, giving, we may be disciples true.

Alleluia! Alleluia! We swill serve with faith anew

GREETING

The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God

and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

And also with you.

CALL TO CONFESSION

When we gather together we are quick to wave and say hello, to pass the peace, to comment on the weather, to make small talk and show hospitality; but how often do we go below the surface? How often do we sit next to the same people, week after week, oblivious to the things they might be carrying?

Family of faith, I believe God wants deeper connection for us than that, so listen now to our prayer of confession and then join me in silent prayer following. Let us listen. Let us pray:

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

I've been meaning to ask...

How are you?

What has your year been like?

Did you know that I have been thinking of you?

I have been meaning to ask...

Is your mom okay?

Did your sister find a job?

Did you ever think we'd still be here?

I've been meaning to ask...

Did it get easier?

Did the grief subside?

Were you ever able to sleep at night?

I've been meaning to ask but I haven't—

Because it's hard.

Because I want to say the right thing.

Because I'm not sure what you need.

I've been meaning to ask, so I'm sorry for my silence.

Forgive me. Show me where it hurts.

Let's start again.

Family of faith, we could all use some practice in asking where it hurts. Take a moment of silent prayer to think of the people in your world, in your lives, who may need you to reach out and ask. Give their names to God.

Pause for silent prayer.

Trusting that God hears all things, we say together: **Amen.**

Family of faith, in the journey to love and care for one another, we are bound to make mistakes. Fortunately for us, we worship a God who showed us how to love, and who extends grace to us when we fail to do so for others. So hear and believe the good news of the gospel:

We are seen. We are heard. We are loved. We are forgiven.

Thanks be to God for this endless grace. Amen.

PRAYER OF THE DAY

Holy God, today we will read stories of those who have known hurt—people who have carried shame, who have lived with grief and chronic illness, who have felt alone and ignored, who have seen the depths of suffering. As we listen, we will be reminded of the hurt we have carried during these fragile days— memories and regrets co-mingling in our chests. And as we listen, we will be reminded that our neighbors, our siblings in faith, also come to this space carrying burdens. So dust off our ears and stretch open the canvases of our hearts so that in our pain, we might lean into one another as we lean into you. Pull us close. We are listening. **Amen.**

Please be seated.

+ WE HEAR GOD’S WORD +

SONG OF ACCLAMATION ELW 175 Alleluia

Song leader sings; congregation responds.

Al-le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.

Al-le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.

READING: I Samuel 1:1-18

There was a certain man of Ramathaim, a Zuphite from the hill country of Ephraim, whose name was Elkanah son of Jeroham son of Elihu son of Tohu son of Zuph, an Ephraimite. He had two wives; the name of one was Hannah, and the name of the other Peninnah. Peninnah had children, but Hannah had no children.

Now this man used to go up year by year from his town to worship and to sacrifice to the LORD of hosts at Shiloh, where the two sons of Eli, Hophni and Phinehas, were priests of the LORD.

On the day when Elkanah sacrificed, he would give portions to his wife Peninnah and to all her sons and daughters; but to Hannah he gave a double portion, because he loved her, though the LORD had closed her womb. Her rival used to provoke her severely, to irritate her, because the LORD had closed her womb. So it went on year after year; as often as she went up to the house of the LORD, she used to provoke her. Therefore Hannah wept and would not eat. Her husband Elkanah said to her, ‘Hannah, why do you weep? Why do you not eat? Why is your heart sad? Am I not more to you than ten sons?’

After they had eaten and drunk at Shiloh, Hannah rose and presented herself before the LORD. Now Eli the priest was sitting on the seat beside the doorpost of the temple of the LORD. She was deeply distressed and prayed to the LORD, and wept bitterly. She made this vow: ‘O LORD of hosts, if only you will look on the misery of your servant, and remember me, and not forget your servant, but will give to your servant a male child, then I will set him before you as a nazirite until the day of his death. He shall drink neither wine nor intoxicants, and no razor shall touch his head.’

As she continued praying before the LORD, Eli observed her mouth. Hannah was praying silently; only her lips moved, but her voice was not heard; therefore Eli thought she was drunk. So Eli said to her, ‘How long will you make a drunken spectacle of yourself? Put away your wine.’ But Hannah answered, ‘No, my lord, I am a woman deeply troubled; I have drunk neither wine nor strong drink, but I have been pouring out my soul before the LORD. Do not regard your servant as a worthless woman, for I have been speaking out of my great anxiety and vexation all this time.’ Then Eli answered, ‘Go in peace; the God of Israel grant the petition you have made to him.’ And she said, ‘Let your servant find favor in your sight.’ Then the woman went to her quarters, ate and drank with her husband, and her countenance was sad no longer.

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

CHILDREN’S SERMON

SERMON

Rev. Rebecca L. Schanely

SACRAMENT OF BAPTISM

God, who is rich in mercy and love, gives us a new birth into a living hope through the sacrament of baptism. By water and the Word God delivers us from sin and death and raises us to new life in Jesus Christ. We are united with all the baptized in the one body of Christ, anointed with the gift of the Holy Spirit, and joined in God’s mission for the life of the world.

We present Charlie Mae Sell baptism.

Called by the Holy Spirit, trusting in the grace and love of God, do you desire to have Charlie baptized into Christ?

Parents: We do.

As you bring your daughter to receive the gift of baptism, you are entrusted with responsibilities:

to live with her among God's faithful people,
bring her to the word of God and the holy supper,
teach her the Lord's Prayer, the Creed, and the Ten Commandments,
place in her hands the holy scriptures,
and nurture her in faith and prayer,
so that your daughter may learn to trust God,
proclaim Christ through word and deed,
care for others and the world God made,
and work for justice and peace.

Do you promise to help Charlie grow in the Christian faith and life?

Parents: We do.

Do you promise to nurture Charlie in the Christian faith as you are empowered by God's Spirit, and to help her live in the covenant of baptism and in communion with the church?

Godparents: We do.

People of God, do you promise to support Charlie and pray for her in her new life in Christ?

We do.

PROFESSION OF FAITH

I ask you to profess your faith in Christ Jesus, reject sin, and confess the faith of the church.

Do you renounce the devil and all the forces that defy God?

Parents: I renounce them.

Do you renounce the powers of this world that rebel against God?

Parents: I renounce them.

Do you renounce the ways of sin that draw you from God?

Parents: I renounce them.

Do you believe in God the Father?

I believe in God, the Father almighty, creator of heaven and earth.

Do you believe in Jesus Christ, the Son of God?

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.

Do you believe in God the Holy Spirit?

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.

THANKSGIVING AT THE FONT

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right to give our thanks and praise.

We give you thanks, O God, for in the beginning your Spirit moved over the waters and by your Word you created the world, calling forth life in which you took delight. Through the waters of the flood you delivered Noah and his family, and through the sea you led your people Israel from slavery into freedom. At the river your Son was baptized by John and anointed with the Holy Spirit.

By the baptism of Jesus' death and resurrection you set us free from the power of sin and death and raise us up to live in you.

Pour out your Holy Spirit, the power of your living Word, that those who are washed in the waters of baptism may be given new life. To you be given honor and praise through Jesus Christ our Lord, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, now and forever. **Amen.**

BAPTISM

Charlie Mae, I baptize you in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit. **Amen.**

Let us pray.

We give you thanks, O God, that through water and the Holy Spirit you give your daughters and sons new birth, cleanse them from sin, and raise them to eternal life. Sustain Charlie with the gift of your Holy Spirit: the spirit of wisdom and understanding, the spirit of counsel and might, the spirit of knowledge and the fear of the Lord, the spirit of joy in your presence, both now and forever. **Amen.**

Charlie Mae, child of God, you have been sealed by the Holy Spirit and marked with the cross of Christ forever. **Amen.**

WELCOME

Let your light so shine before others that they may see your good works and glorify your Father in heaven.

Let us welcome the newly baptized.

We welcome you into the body of Christ and into the mission we share: join us in giving thanks and praise to God and bearing God's creative and redeeming word to all the world.

BAPTISM HYMN

ELW 455

Crashing Waters at Creation

Crashing waters at creation, ordered by the Spirit's breath,
First to witness day's beginning from the brightness of night's death.

Living water, never ending, quench the thirst and flood the soul.
Well-spring, source of life eternal, drench our dryness, make us whole.

Please be seated.

MUSICAL OFFERING

The Lord is my Light – Frances Allitsen

Meghan Carlin, soprano

Please rise in body or spirit.

OFFERING PRAYER

Blessed are you, O God, maker of all things. Through your goodness you have blessed us with these gifts: our selves, our time, and our possessions. Use us, and what we have gathered, in feeding the world with your love, through the one who gave himself for us, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. **Amen.**

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

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.

+ WE ARE SENT OUT TO SERVE +

ANNOUNCEMENTS

BLESSING

Family of faith,

as you leave this place, may God grant you
the curiosity to counter assumptions,
the vulnerability to befriend,
the bravery to speak your truth,
the wisdom to listen,
the strength to ask for help,
the resiliency to chose love, even when it's hard,
and the awareness of the Holy Spirit always beside you.
In the name of the Great Connector—Love itself,
go in peace.

Thanks be to God.

SENDING HYMN

ELW 434

Jesus shall reign

Jesus shall reign where'er the sun does its successive journeys run;
his kingdom stretch from shore to shore, till moons shall wax and wane no more.

Blessings abound where'er he reigns: the pris'ners leap to lose their chains,
the weary find eternal rest, and all who suffer want are blest.

DISMISSAL

Go in peace. You are the body of Christ.

Thanks be to God.

POSTLUDE

Tuba tune in D Major – C.S. Lang

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OUR LIFE IN COMMUNITY TOGETHER

Today we welcome Charlie Mae Sell, daughter of Remy Sell and Margaret Preletz, into the family of faith through the sacrament of baptism. Charlie's godparents are Nathalie Sell and Chalie Preletz.

Hello to my new friends at St. John's!

First, I'd like to thank the congregation for making me feel so welcome with your cards and greetings, and certainly with my cupcake party!



Now that we are finally making the move into the lovely Sanctuary, I need some information:

If you have and/or, are interested in participating in the musical life of St. John's, please contact me, preferably via e-mail to let me know what your specific interests are, e.g. choir, praise team, handbells, instrumental or vocal solos, etc.

It's important that I have plenty of information for planning purposes, especially in light of social distancing protocols. You reach me at bmod7@comcast.net.

Thank you! Ben



can

Order your Hoagies by Thursday, August 12th

Italian \$7 Turkey \$8

Can be ordered with or without onions and banana peppers

To order your July hoagie please contact Elaine Keller by phone (215.262.5366) or email elaineakeller@comcast.net before August 12 for an August 19th pick up. If you have any questions about the hoagies or our trips, please contact Elaine.

There is a sign up genius in the Weekly Email for those who can help assemble hoagies.

Food Collection for Open Link

Saturday, August 21st.

9-11 am at the back entrance

Let's focus on meeting some of Open Link's biggest needs.

This time let's bring; pasta/rice sides, canned meats, cereal and shampoo/
conditioner



*Ignited by Spirit
Growing in Love*

COUNCIL MEMBERS

Tony Aleide, President
Elaine Keller, Vice President/ Staff Support
Shelia Hercek, Secretary/Member Engagement
Bob Conrad, Finance
Lindsay Detwiler, Worship and Music
Kristie Faust, Marketing & Communication
John Hovanec, Property
Barry Long, Worship and Music
Lynsey Quinn, Faith Formation
Joyce Foesig, Outreach
Travis Hobson, Stewardship

STAFF

Rev. Rebecca L. Schanely, Pastor
(pastorbecky74@gmail.com, 215-234-4580)

Vikki Shelor, Office Administrator (stj.stown@verizon.net)

Ben Modica, Musician (bmod7@comcast.net)

Michele Peart, Bookkeeper
Jamie Hovanec, Coordinator of Children's Faith Formation
Bob Ernst, Facilities Manager
Michael Herm, Treasurer

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stj.stown@verizon.net (email)

NEW Dates Available through Labor Day!
Meal Train for Brian & Jennifer Allebach

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.

JOIN THE A/V TEAM— Do you or someone you know have an interest in video or audio technology? We could use more help on the A/V team on Sunday mornings. No special skills are required, we will teach you everything you need to know. If you are interested in giving this part of our ministry a try, please contact Colleen Carlin (colcarlin@hotmail.com; 215-813-4776) or Brian Gegan (briangegan@amsentrp.com; 215-429-5768). Please consider joining the team.

You can support St. John's every time you shop at Amazon—and it costs you nothing!

Simply go to smile.amazon.com to select St. John's Evangelical Lutheran, Green Lane as your supporting charity. Then all purchases you make through smile.amazon.com (same prices as amazon.com) will donate a percentage on to St. John's. If you use Amazon's mobile app, you will have to go into the app to turn Amazon Smile on. Just go into the Amazon app, click on settings, then click on AmazonSmile and follow the prompts to select St. John's and turn on AmazonSmile so all your purchases count! For more information, call the church office!

You Are Invited—Inter-Church Bowling League is looking for additional Church Teams or Individual Bowlers to join in.

We bowl each Tuesday evening at Earl Bowl Lakes, Allentown Road, Earlington - 6:30pm the season runs Aug. 31-April 19, 2021 Cost is \$13/bowler/week

You don't need to be a great bowler as we use a 90% handicap.

Great Fellowship, Year End Banquet with Awards and Prizes.

If you are interested or have questions please reach out to Bill Bennett at 215-669-8856 or billbennett11@comcast.net.

