

Order for Worship
September 5, 2021
Fifteenth Sunday after Pentecost

WELCOME

PRELUDE Voluntary in G Major – William Walond

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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,
and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit.
Amen

CONFSSION AND FORGIVENESS

Blessed be the holy Trinity, one God, whose teaching is life, whose presence is sure,
and whose love is endless.

Amen.

Let us confess our sins to the one who welcomes us with an open heart.

God our comforter:

**like lost sheep, we have gone astray. We gaze upon abundance and see scarcity. We turn
our faces away from injustice and oppression. We exploit the earth with our apathy and
greed. Free us from our sin, gracious God. Listen when we call out to you for help. Lead
us by your love to love our neighbors as ourselves. Amen.**

All have sinned and fall short of the glory of God.

By the gift of grace in Christ Jesus, God makes you righteous.

Receive with glad hearts the forgiveness of all your sins.

Amen.

HYMN ELW 617 We Come to You for Healing, Lord

We come to you for healing, Lord, of body, mind, and soul,
And pray that by your Spirit's touch we may again be whole.

As once you walked through ancient streets and reached toward those in pain,
Come, risen Christ, among us still with pow'r to heal again.

Text: Herman G. Stuempfle Jr.

Music: Hugh Wilson

Text c. 2002 GIA Publications, Inc.

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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.

HYMN OF PRAISE

Glory to God

Assisting minister

Glo-ry to God in the high-est, and peace to God's peo-ple on earth.

All

Lord God, heav-en-ly King, al - might-y God and Fa - ther, we

wor-ship you, we give you thanks, we praise you for your glo - ry.

Lord Je-sus Christ, on - ly Son of the Fa-ther, Lord God, Lamb of God,

you take a - way the sin of the world: have mer - cy on us;

you are seat-ed at the right hand of the Fa-ther: re - ceive our prayer.

For you a - lone are the Ho - ly One, you a-lone are the Lord,

you a - lone are the Most High, Je - sus Christ, with the Ho - ly Spir - it,

in the glo - ry of God the Fa - ther. A - men.

PRAYER OF THE DAY

Gracious God, throughout the ages you transform sickness into health and death into life. Open us to the power of your presence, and make us a people ready to proclaim your promises to the whole world, through Jesus Christ, our healer and Lord.

Amen.

+ WORD +

FIRST READING: Isaiah 35:4-7a

These verses are a word of hope to the exiles in Babylon. Isaiah 34 portrays God's vengeance on Edom, Israel's age-old enemy, which makes the path from Babylon to Zion safe for the exiles' return. The desert itself will flow with water to give drink to the returning exiles.

⁴Say to those who are of a fearful heart,

“Be strong, do not fear!

Here is your God.

He will come with vengeance,
with terrible recompense.

He will come and save you.”

⁵Then the eyes of the blind shall be opened,
and the ears of the deaf unstopped;

⁶then the lame shall leap like a deer,
and the tongue of the speechless sing for joy.

For waters shall break forth in the wilderness,
and streams in the desert;

^{7a}the burning sand shall become a pool,
and the thirsty ground springs of water.

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

ELW Alleluia! Lord and Savior

Al - le - lu - ia! Lord and Sav - ior: o - pen now your sav-ing word.

Let it burn like fire with-in us; speak un - til our hearts are stirred.

Al - le - lu - ia! Lord, we sing for the good news that you bring.

GOSPEL: Mark 7:25-37

In Mark's gospel, encounters with women usually signify turning points in Jesus' ministry. Here, a conversation with a Syrophenician woman marks the beginning of his mission to the Gentiles.

²⁴[Jesus] set out and went away to the region of Tyre. He entered a house and did not want anyone to know he was there. Yet he could not escape notice,²⁵but a woman whose little daughter had an unclean spirit immediately heard about him, and she came and bowed down at his feet. ²⁶Now the woman was a Gentile, of Syrophenician origin. She begged him to cast the demon out of her daughter. ²⁷He said to her, "Let the children be fed first, for it is not fair to take the children's food and throw it to the dogs." ²⁸But she answered him, "Sir, even the dogs under the table eat the children's crumbs." ²⁹Then he said to her, "For saying that, you may go—the demon has left your daughter." ³⁰So she went home, found the child lying on the bed, and the demon gone.

³¹Then he returned from the region of Tyre, and went by way of Sidon towards the Sea of Galilee, in the region of the Decapolis. ³²They brought to him a deaf man who had an impediment in his speech; and they begged him to lay his hand on him. ³³He took him aside in private, away from the crowd, and put his fingers into his ears, and he spat and touched his tongue. ³⁴Then looking up to heaven, he sighed and said to him, "Ephphatha," that is, "Be opened." ³⁵And immediately his ears were opened, his tongue was released, and he spoke plainly. ³⁶Then Jesus ordered them to tell no one; but the more he ordered them, the more zealously they proclaimed it. ³⁷They were astounded beyond measure, saying, "He has done everything well; he even makes the deaf to hear and the mute to speak."

This is the Gospel of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

SERMON

HYMN OF THE DAY ELW 715 Christ, be our Light

Longing for light, we wait in darkness. Longing for truth, we turn to you.
Make us your own, your holy people, light for the world to see.

Refrain: Christ, be our light! Shine in our hearts. Shine through the darkness.
Christ, be our light! Shine in your church gathered today.

Longing for peace, our world is troubled. Longing for hope, many despair.
Your word alone has pow'r to save us. Make us your living voice.

Refrain: Christ, be our light! Shine in our hearts. Shine through the darkness.
Christ, be our light! Shine in your church gathered today.

Text and music: Bernadette Farrell c. 1993 Bernadette Farrell, admin. OCP Publications
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CREED

Together with people of every time and place, let us profess our faith in God.

**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 into hell.
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.

MUSICAL OFFERING The Great Physician, (tune by J.H. Stockton)
 - Winifred L. Winans

c. 1965 Lorenz Publishing Co., in "The Organ Portfolio."
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OFFERTORY PRAYER

God of abundance, you cause streams to break forth in the desert and manna to rain from the heavens. Accept the gifts you have first given us. Unite them with the offering of our lives to nourish the world you love so dearly; through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. **Amen.**

PRAVYER OF THE PEOPLE

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.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

BENEDICTION

People of God,
you are Christ's body,
bringing new life to a suffering world.
The holy Trinity, one God,
bless you now and forever.
Amen.

Let streams of living justice flow down upon the earth;
 give freedom's light to captives, let all the poor have worth.
 The hungry's hands are pleading, the workers claim their rights,
 the mourners long for laughter, the blinded seek for sight.
 Make liberty a beacon, strike down the iron pow'r;
 Abolish ancient vengeance: proclaim your people's hour

For healing of the nations, for peace that will not end,
 for love that makes us lovers, God grant us grace to mend.
 Weave our varied gifts together; knit our lives as they are spun;
 on your loom of time enroll us till our thread of life is run.
 O great weaver of our fabric, bind church and world in one;
 Dye our texture with your radiance, light our colors with your sun.

Text: William Whitla

Music: Gustav Holst

Text c. 1989 William Whitla

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DISMISSAL

Go in peace. The living Word dwells in you.

Thanks be to God.

OUR RESPONSE TO GOD'S LOVE

Worship Attendance		
8/29/2021 – In Person 47, Zoom - 23 households		
Giving Amounts	Total received between 8/16-28/2021	Amount Needed between 8/16-28/2021
General Fund	\$4,667.62	\$11,216
Building Fund	\$396.76	
<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 8/16-28/2021	\$80	
Capital Campaign Contributions received to date	\$ 251,229.65	

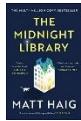


Please continue to keep the following people connected to our congregation in your prayers: Alex Kunkel, Bob Moran, Betsy Rodger, Nancy Terpoilli, Brian Allebach, Charles Krupp, Jean Leister, Kenny Nace, Tom Ciesielka, Ann Brown Hager, Alyssa Gegan, David Mounts, Ann Lewis, Carolyn Iris, Melissa Snyder, 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, Florence Van Dyke and Donna Derstine.

St. John's Music Program

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 can reach me at bmod7@comcast.net. Thank you! Ben

LAST Chance to Order Hoagies this year! Place your order by Thursday, September 9th. Please contact Elaine Keller by phone (215.262.5366) or email elainekeller@comcast.net before Sept 9th for a Sept 16th pick up. If you have any questions about the hoagies or our trips, please contact Elaine.



The Book Club is reading *The Midnight Library* by Matt Haig.
Pick up a copy and join us at the firepit or zoom in
on Tuesday, September 14th at 7pm.

Bible Workshop

Saturday, October 2 9:00-10:30 AM

Do you have a student in grades 2-4 who hasn't received a Bible from St. John's? Then we invite you to be part of our Bible workshop. A parent/guardian is expected to attend the workshop with each student.

Visit the link below to register your student for the workshop by September 26.

<https://www.signupgenius.com/go/60B084FA8AD2CAAFD0-bible>

First Communion Workshop

Saturday, November 13 9:30-11:30 AM

Do you have a young person in grades 2-6 who hasn't received communion yet but is interested in doing so? Then this workshop is for you! This workshop will prepare students to receive Holy Communion, which they will do within worship on Sunday, November 21.

A parent/guardian is expected to attend the workshop with each student.

Visit the link below to register for the workshop by Sunday, November 7

<https://www.signupgenius.com/go/60B084FA8AD2CAAFD0-first3>

YPO

Fall Kick-Off around the Fire Pit Sunday, September 19 7 PM

Join Pastor Becky at the fire pit to discuss YPO activities for this year.

Bring a chair – munchies and drinks will be provided.

Confirmation Info

Confirmation Classes for students entering 7th grade will begin this fall. First and second year confirmation classes meet on Wednesday evenings at 7 PM, starting September 1st. If you have a student in 7th or 8th grade who is interested in being part of this fall's confirmation class, please reach out to Pastor Becky.

Several Dates are available—*Please sign up TODAY!*

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.

For the remainder of the summer, St. John's will be taking up a collection of items needed by the Martin Luther School in Plymouth Meeting. Since YPO has not been able to visit with the children who reside there as result of the pandemic, we hope you'll join us in this collection. The items below will be collected thru Sunday, September 5 and will then be taken to the school for the children to enjoy. Please drop all items in the bins in the narthex and parlor.

Items needed are art supplies, which includes crayons, markers, colored pencils and sketch pads, and journals that are NOT spiral bound.

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!

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.