

January 22, 2023

Third Sunday after the Epiphany

WELCOME and GREETING

PRELUDE

Lighten the Darkness – Healey Willan

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

Blessed be the holy Trinity, one God, who makes all things new, whose mercy endures forever.

Amen.

Trusting in God's mercy, let us confess our sin.

Silence is kept for reflection.

Holy One, source of our renewal,

we confess that we are wrapped up in sin, and cannot free ourselves. We have not practiced your righteousness. Our hearts have turned away from you. For the sake of the world you so love, forgive us, that we may be reconciled to one another for the glory of your holy name. Amen.

Thus says our God:

“The former things have come to pass and new things I now declare.” God's mercy makes us new. We are forgiven in the name of Christ our Savior.

Amen.

OPENING HYMN ELW 668 O Zion, Haste

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



All glo - ry be to God on high, and peace to earth be
giv - en! Let an - gels sing, let all re - ply; good -
will breaks forth from heav - en! Lord God Al - might - y,
heav - en's king, we wor - ship you, our thanks we sing, we
praise you for your glo - ry. A - men.

PRAYER OF THE DAY

Lord God, your lovingkindness always goes before us and follows after us. Summon us into your light, and direct our steps in the ways of goodness that come through the cross of your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

Amen.

Please be seated.

+ WE HEAR GOD'S WORD +

FIRST READING: I Corinthians 1:10-18

At the conclusion of the reading:

Word of God, Word of Life.

Thanks be to God.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION



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 READING: Matthew 4:12-23

The holy gospel according to Matthew.

Glory to you, O Lord.

This is the gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, O Christ.

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

SERMON

HYMN OF THE DAY ELW 798 Will You Come and Follow Me

APOSTLE'S CREED

Together with people of faith from every time and place,
we proclaim our faith with the words of the creed.

**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.**

OFFERING

MUSICAL OFFERING I Want to Walk as a Child of the Light
 – Kathleen Thomerson, setting by Benjamin Harlan
 Saint John's choir

OFFERTORY ELW 685 Take My Life, That I May Be

Take my silver and my gold,
not a mite would I withhold;
take my intellect and use
ev'ry pow'r as thou shall choose.

Take my love; my Lord, I pour
at thy feet its treasure store;
take myself, and I will be
ever, only, all for thee.

OFFERING PRAYER

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

Merciful God,
receive our prayer.

We bring to you our needs and hopes, O God, trusting your wisdom and power revealed in Christ crucified.

Amen.

LORD'S PRAYER

+ WE ARE SENT OUT TO SERVE +

ANNOUNCEMENTS

BLESSING

The God who faithfully brings forth justice
and breaks the oppressor's rod
bless, strengthen, and uphold you,
today and always.

Amen.

SENDING HYMN ELW 818 O Master, Let Me Walk with You

DISMISSAL

Go in peace. Follow the way of Jesus.

Thanks be to God.

POSTLUDE Allegretto Giocoso (from *Water Music*) – G. F. Handel, arr. Carl McKinley

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PRAYER LIST

Please continue to keep the following people connected to our congregation in your prayers: Bob Moran, Brian Allebach, Charles Krupp, David Mounts, Leah Crater, Steve Keyser, Sydney Crossin, Andrew Robison, Silas Reed, Ruth Jadick, Pat Ernst, Joan Miller, Pastor Jennifer Phelps, Paige & Peyton Seasock, Kathleen Casey, Barry Yoder, Willie Herbst, Tal Umstead, Sandra Umstead, Donald and Donna Moyer, Gladys Burke, Ann Marie Romano and Linda Hart.

It's a Recycle Sorting Party! Today after worship

The goal will be to pull out what we know we can recycle locally (printers, scanners, etc) and count up how many TVs (both flat screen and CRT) that we have so we know when discussing options with companies what our numbers are. The more folks who come help with this work, the quicker it will go.

So All are welcome - just dress warm and meet out at the back shed.

Mark Your Calendar

Monday, Jan 23	7pm Executive Meeting
Wednesday, Jan 25	7pm Confirmation Learning
Saturday, Jan 28	YPO Snow Tubing
Sunday, Jan 29	9am Faith Formation (age 3-Adult) 10:15 Worship

Add Your Voice to the Choir Choir rehearsals are held Wednesday evenings at 7pm. All are welcome to join—even if you can't be there every week— simply add your voice when you can!!

Let's Hit the Lanes!!! St. John's is going bowling! January 29th, 2023 from 12:30 to 2:30pm at Earl Bowl Lanes (at Allentown & Morwood Rd.). Cost is \$13 per person (includes 3 games and shoe rental). Food is available for purchase from the snack bar, but feel free to bring whatever you're eating while you're knocking down all those pins! (no outside pizza please) We hope you can join the fun!! Sign up here: <https://www.signupgenius.com/go/9040D4EACAD2FAA8-lets>

Winter Book Club will be reading Kelly Corrigan's book, *Tell Me More: Stories about the 12 Hardest Things I'm Learning to Say*. We will meet on Monday, February 6th at 7pm in the Fellowship Hall to discuss this, "deeply personal, unfailingly honest, and often hilarious examination of the essential phrases that turn the wheel of life." -Goodreads.com.

Friedens Union Cemetery Assoc. would just like to remind anyone who has graves in the cemetery that around March 1, weather permitting there will be some volunteers cleaning off the cemetery. If you have Christmas things in the grave yard please remove prior to this. If you wish to volunteer to help with this please call Evey 215-264-6099. If we have enough help it only takes a few hours.

Save the Date! Sunday, March 19th for a **St. Patrick's Day Roller Skating Party** at Ringing Rocks Roller Rink in Pottstown.

Re-Member Indian Reservation Needs Help—There have been two back to back storms recently that have left roads impassable, groceries scarce and many households struggling. The Heavenly Helpers are sending zero degree sleeping bags to help and are asking for donations to cover the costs. Please a check in the offering plate made out to Heavenly Helpers, or contact Elaine Keller for other ways to contribute.

Coffee Bar needs Volunteers! Please consider being in charge of the coffee bar for one Sunday. All that includes is to bring in treats to share (i.e. bagels, mini muffins, doughnut holes, etc), setting out the treats and plugging in the coffee pot and cleaning up at the end. Sign up at: www.signupgenius.com/go/9040D4EACAD2FAA8-coffee

Lenten Worship Experiment During the season of Lent, St. John's will be adding an early morning worship experience to our Sunday mornings. This service will take place at 8 AM, starting February 26 thru Easter Sunday, April 9. It will be a more quiet, reflective style of worship with minimal music - and will be 35-45 minutes in length to allow participation in 9 AM Sunday school. At the conclusion of the Lenten season, the Worship & Music Team will evaluate participation in this early service during Lent to help determine our fall 2023 worship schedule. If you have any questions, please feel free to speak with Pastor Becky or Erika Haldeman, chair of Worship & Music.

Blessed to be a Blessing

a monthly collection in which people of St. John's share their blessings with others.

Each month of 2023, we will be identifying a ministry—some local, some a bit farther away—to support with an in-kind offering. Donations can be brought to church and placed in the parlor as indicated.

For the month of January, we will be collecting new underwear and socks for children of all ages/sizes for Mitzvah Circle. Donations can be placed in the parlor though January 31st.

Mitzvah Circle—When a family faces a crisis, we are here

We serve families walking along life's edge by providing over 100 products including clothing, diapers, new strollers and car seats, toiletries, household items and other necessities. www.MitzvahCircle.org