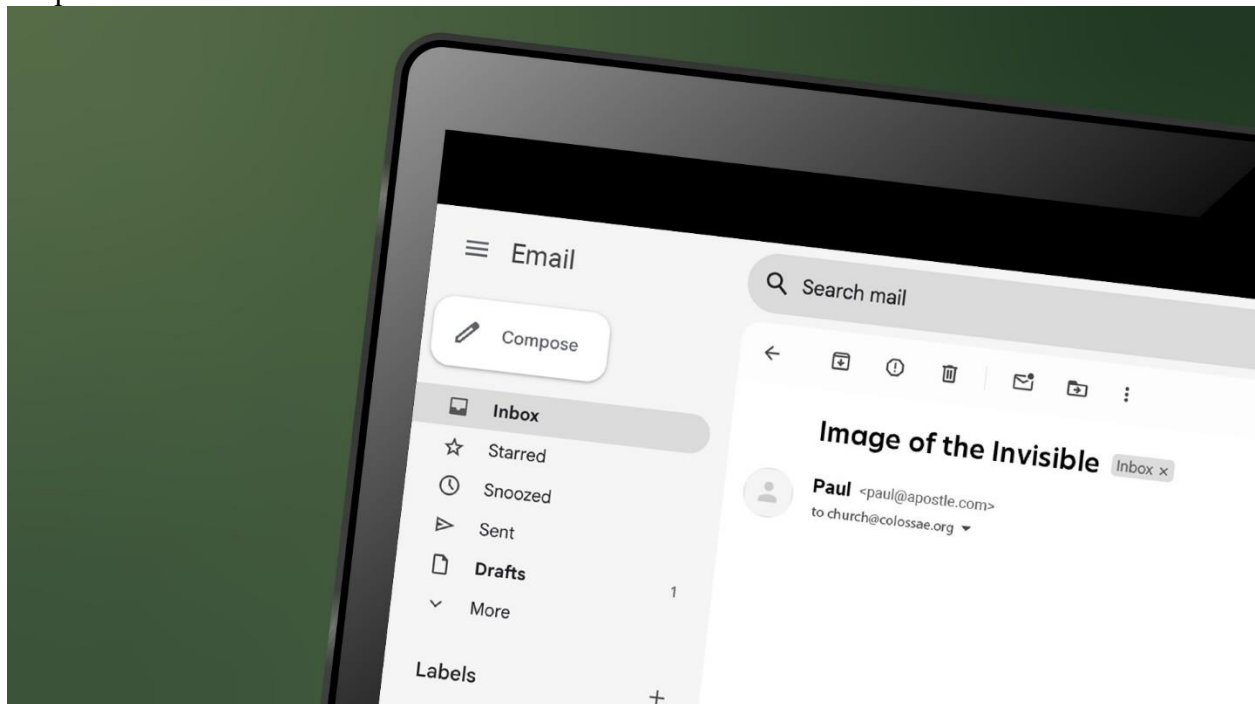


July 20, 2025
9:30 AM
Sixth Sunday after Pentecost
Communion
Supply Pastor: The Rev. Marcia Bell

Paragraph for bulletin cover:

In this week's text, Paul draws on the power of communal singing by quoting a hymn about Christ in the middle of his letter to the Colossians. Note that I said, "a hymn." Scholars are fairly certain this song was sung in communal worship, not unlike "Amazing Grace" or "Praise God from Whom All Blessings Flow." When faced with plumbing the depths of the Incarnation, Paul turned to song. And through that song, Paul demonstrates what the image of the invisible means for us as the church, the body of Christ. In the extraordinary and the mundane, Christ came, and so, in the extraordinary and the mundane, we are called to embody Christ to the world with one another.

Graphic for bulletin cover:



+ GATHERING +

The Holy Spirit calls us together as the people of God.

WELCOME AND GREETING

PRELUDE I heard the Voice of Jesus say, (Kingsfold) - setting by Anne Krentz Organ
Carmela Steyaert, flute

CONFESSION

In the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

Amen.

Let us open our hearts and minds to the truth of our lives, and let us offer that truth to God.

Silence is kept for reflection.

Forgive us, O God,

when we limit you – when we remake you in our image, when we claim our causes as your own, when we box you in, and explain you away, and in our attempts at understanding, whittle away all mystery.

Forgive us for our human impulses, and change us: awaken us to your glory, confound us by your love, shower us with grace so that we will be made new, recreated in your image, grateful for all that we cannot know.

In the name of Christ, who brought us closer to you, we pray. Amen.

Friends, let us proclaim the Good News:

In Jesus Christ, we are forgiven!

Let us go out into the world as people made new by God.

Amen.

HYMN ELW 521 O Day of Rest and Gladness

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 ELW 847 Come, Let Us Join Our Cheerful Songs



1 Come, let us join our cheer-ful songs with an-gels round the throne;

2 Let all cre-a-tion join in one to bless the sa-cred name



ten thou-sand thou-sand are their tongues, but all their joys are one.

of God who sits up-on the throne, and to a-dore the Lamb.

PRAYER OF THE DAY

O Christ, your cross speaks both to us and to our world. In your dying for us, You accepted the pain and hurt of the whole of creation. The arms of your cross stretch out across the broken world in reconciliation. You have made peace with us. Helps us to make peace with you by sharing in your reconciling work. May we recognize your spirit disturbing and challenging us to care for creation and for the poor who most feel the effects of its abuse. O Christ, the whole of creation groans. Set us free and make us whole. **Amen.**

+ WORD +

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

FIRST READING: Colossians 1:15-28

At the conclusion of the reading:

Word of God. Word of life.

Thanks be to God.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

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

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

GOSPEL READING: Luke 10:38-42

At the beginning of the reading:

The holy Gospel according to Luke.

Glory to you, O Lord.

At the conclusion of the reading:

This is the Gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, O Christ.

SERMON

The Rev. Marcia Bell

HYMN OF THE DAY ELW 770 Give Me Jesus

APOSTLE'S CREED

Together with people of faith in all times and places, we profess 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.

PRAYERS

Each petition ends with the phrase:

God of grace,

hear our prayer.

Trusting in your lovingkindness, we place our prayer and hope in you, in the name of Jesus Christ.

Amen.

+ MEAL +

God feeds us with the presence of Jesus Christ.

OFFERING

MUSICAL OFFERING

'Tis So Sweet to Trust in Jesus - William J. Kirkpatrick
Carmela Steyaert, flute

OFFERTORY ELW 467 We Place Upon Your Table, Lord



1 We place up - on your ta - ble, Lord, where you by
2 With - in these sim - ple things there lie the height and
3 Ac - cept them, Lord; they come from you; we take them



grace have bid us dine, these to - kens of our dai - ly
depth of hu - man life: our pain and tears, our thoughts and
hum - bly from your hand; put these your gifts to high - er



work, the food of life, the bread and wine.
toils, our hopes and fears, our joy and strife.
use: the ho - ly meal that you com - mand.

OFFERTORY PRAYER

Holy and Reconciling God, in Christ, you have made the invisible visible, bringing us home with love beyond measure. As we offer these gifts, may they reflect our gratitude for your presence in our lives. Use them to build your kingdom, to restore what is broken, and to remind the world of your grace. May our giving be an act of thanksgiving, a sign of the ordinary magic of your love at work among us. In all things, may we live to your glory. **Amen.**

THE GREAT THANKSGIVING

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Lift up your hearts.

We lift them to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right to give our thanks and praise.

WORDS OF INSTITUTION

LORD'S PRAYER

Lord, remember us in your kingdom and teach us 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.

INVITATION TO COMMUNION

These are the gifts of God for the people of God.

Thanks be to God.

COMMUNION INSTRUCTIONS

MUSIC DURING COMMUNION ELW 754 Jesus, the Very Thought of You

TABLE BLESSING

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

God of grace, you gathered us to your table and we drank deeply of your grace. Send us out by your Spirit to love our neighbors as ourselves and proclaim your love in Jesus' name. **Amen.**

+ SENDING +

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

ANNOUNCEMENTS

BENEDICTION

Go now in the blessing of Christ,

the image of the invisible, Love-made-flesh.

May God's loving presence surround you on every side,

guiding you and empowering you to share God's loving presence
with everyone you meet.

Amen.

SENDING HYMN ELW 820 O Savior, Precious Savior

DISMISSAL

Go in peace. Live by the Spirit.

Thanks be to God.

POSTLUDE Bells in Seven - Andrew Fletcher

The liturgy for today's worship service was reprinted by permission from Sundays and Seasons.com, copyright 2025 Augsburg Fortress Liturgies Annual License #45176. The hymns and songs unless otherwise noted, are covered under copyright licenses; CCLI 1490857, OneLicense.net A-709256, or are Public Domain. Copyright 2025. Confession adapted from Beth Merrill Neel. Used with permission. Prayer of the day from the Iona Community's Iona Abbey Worship Book. Benediction written by Dr. Lisa Hancock, Discipleship Ministries, January 2025.

PRAYER LIST

Please continue to keep the following people connected to our congregation in your prayers: Bob Moran, Leonard Gibeon, David Mounts, Ruthie Jadick, Jill Iris, Ed Schanely, Steve Keyser, Andrew Breuninger, Joe Tursi, the Stauffer family, Renee Fels, Rebecca Jellen, Sarah Keller, Linda Lysoby, Mary Bonar, Mary Flint, Richard Ditzler, Paige Seasock, Charlie Izurieta, Jeff Jadick, Joy Miller, Alyson Harvey, Audrey Sell, Sonny Carson and Katie Knowles.

We appreciate The Reverend Marcia serving as our supply pastor this Sunday. She was born in Philadelphia and grew up in Abington. After receiving a BA degree from Susquehanna University and a Master of Divinity degree from the Lutheran Theological Seminary at Philadelphia, Pastor Bell was ordained in the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America in 1989. She served St. Matthew's Lutheran Church in Perkasio and Trinity Lutheran Church in Fort Washington, before accepting a call to serve as Director of Student Services at LTSP. She has been an intentional interim pastor in congregations of our synod. She was elected to two terms as a member of Synod Council and represented Southeast PA synod at both the 2007 and the 2009 ELCA churchwide assemblies. Pastor Bell and her husband, Robert, reside in Telford and enjoy spending time at their cottage in Paradise Falls. They are the proud parents of two adult daughters and thoroughly enjoy their role as grandparents to Caleb, Chloe, and Christian.

Mark Your Calendar

Wednesday, July 23 5-8pm Food Truck Night

Friday, July 25 12-5pm Red Cross Blood Drive

Sunday, July 27 9:30am Worship

Food Truck Night will be this Wednesday, July 23rd from 5-8pm.

Check the weekly email for the link to sign up to help. Come out and join the fun! Bring a friend... All are Welcome.

There will be a Red Cross Blood Drive at St. John's on Friday, July 25th from 12-5pm. Please sign up for a time slot at redcrossblood.org. There is an urgent need for blood donations in our area.

St. John's & Friedens Book Club is reading *This Tender Land* by William Kent Krueger.

They will be meeting in St. John's fellowship hall on Saturday, August 9th to discuss this book and share a light breakfast and coffee. Questions, please contact Pastor Becky or Pastor Stephanie.

Blessing of the New School Year Sunday, August 24 – 9:30 AM

As we prepare for a new school year to start, we will take time during worship to bless not only our students but also all those who work within the school system – teachers, aides, administrators, cafeteria workers, bus drivers, etc.

Younger students are welcome to bring their backpacks for the blessing!

PASTOR BECKY'S CHALLENGE TO ST. JOHN'S IS \$3000

Collect \$3000 by Aug 24 -
Pastor Becky has to dye her hair!

Collect \$3500 by Aug 24 -
St. John's decides what color!



CHOW DOWN SUMNEYTOWN...

IT'S FOOD TRUCK WEDNESDAY!

JOIN US FOR FOOD, LIVE MUSIC, LOCALLY-
MADE BEVERAGES, SWEET TREATS, LAWN
GAMES, AND COMMUNITY!



FOOD BY MEAT WAGON BBQ

SWEET TREATS BY THE SWEET FREEZE

**DRINKS PROVIDED BY
PERKIOMEN VALLEY BREWERY, SALFORD STATION SPIRITS,
& CARDINAL HOLLOW WINERY**

LIVE MUSIC BY PETE KRANZ

PLACE

ST. JOHN'S LUTHERAN CHURCH
3104 MAIN STREET, GREEN LANE, PA 18054

**JULY 23
5-8PM**

FOR MORE INFORMATION VISIT STJSUMNEYTOWN.ORG



*The Reformed churches of the
Upper Perkiomen Valley invite you!*

END OF SUMMER

Outdoor Worship and Picnic

Sunday, August 31
Worship at 10:30 AM

Worship and picnic will be held,
weather permitting,
at New Goshenhoppen Park,
618 3rd Street, East Greenville



Bring lawn chairs and a side dish
or dessert to share.

Hamburgers, hot dogs and drinks
will be provided.



An indoor worship service will be held at 9 AM
at St. Mark's Lutheran Church in Pennsburg
and will be available online as well.