

July 27, 2025

9:30 AM

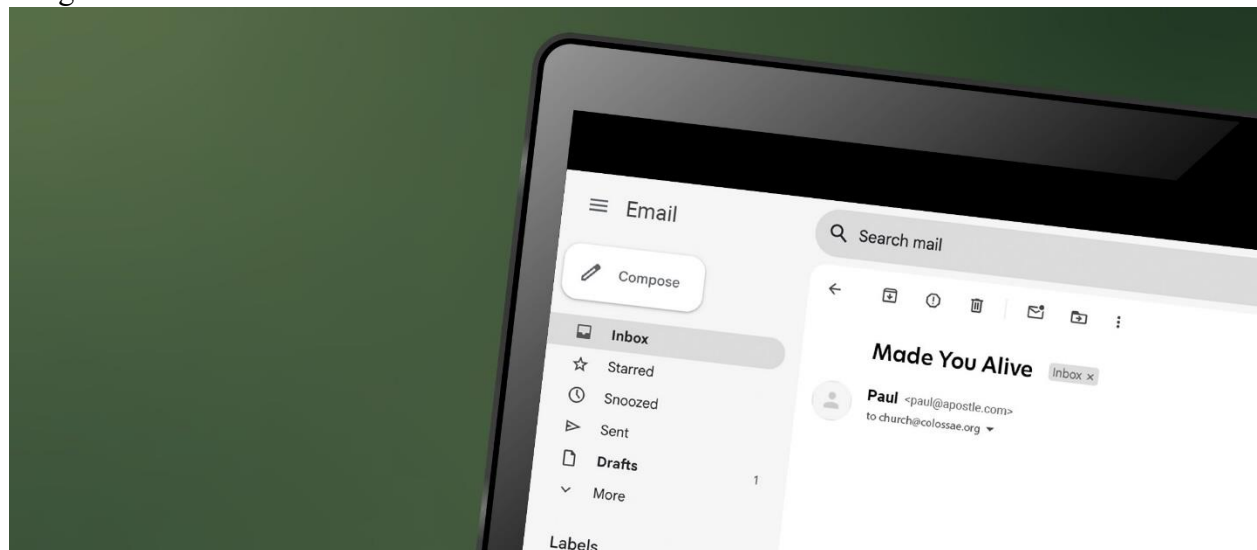
Seventh Sunday after Pentecost

Supply Pastor: The Rev. Marcia Bell

Paragraph for bulletin cover:

How have you encountered God in the fullness of who you are—body, mind, and spirit—in this church community? “I feel alive”: something we exclaim after an invigorating dunk in cold water, soaring through the air on a hang glider, or feeling the rush of wind as we tip over the edge of that first big hill on a roller coaster. Funny how none of these involve sitting quietly and contemplating deep and heady things. Sitting and cogitating has a way of drawing our focus away from the body instead of toward it. And it seems that to feel alive, we have to be in our bodies, feeling and experiencing the world around us with our whole selves.

Image for bulletin cover:



+ GATHERING +

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

PRELUDE O Father in the heaven Who art - attrib. J.S. Bach

WELCOME AND GREETING

CALL TO WORSHIP

Children of God, when the journey ahead seems long and hard, full of unknown dangers and all-too-real risks, remember:

Keep the faith. God, who made us alive, is our Guardian and Guide.

When the voices on the side of the road tempt us with their misinformation full of unearned certainty, simple solutions, and quickness to blame and shame those who disagree with them, remember:

Stay the course. God, who made us alive, is our Wisdom and Judge.

When those in power place barriers in our way, making it harder to share the love of God in our communities, trying to convince us it is easier to do nothing than remain firm in God's call to act for the flourishing of all our neighbors, remember:

Do not be afraid. God, who made us alive, is our Strength and our Advocate.

Children of God, come! Let us worship God, whose persistent love empowers us to persevere, to stay the course, to live by faith and not fear.

Come, let us worship God, who makes us alive, through grace to love and serve God and one another.

OPENING HYMN ELW 761 Evening and Morning

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 415 Father Most Holy

1 Fa - ther most ho - ly, mer - ci - ful, and ten - der; Je - sus, our
2 Lord God Al - might-y, un - to thee be glo - ry, one in three

Sav - ior, with the Fa - ther reign - ing; Spir - it of com - fort,
per - sons, o - ver all ex - alt - ed! Glo - ry we of - fer,

ad - vo - cate, de - fend - er, light nev - er wan - ing.
praise thee and a - dore thee, now and for - ev - er.

PRAYER OF THE DAY

Just God, we sense your anger at the injustice that thrives in the world. We share your grief at the discord that rages among your children, the rejection of those who bear your image, and the oppression of those you know by name. We turn toward you for strength and guidance to turn away from the norms of this world, the lure of self-righteousness, and the appeal of comfort over justice. Embolden us to believe that another world is possible and empower us to participate in its creation. **Amen**

+ WORD +

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

READING: Colossians 2:6-19

At the conclusion of the reading:

The Word of the Lord.

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: Luke 11:1-13

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

HYMN OF THE DAY ELW 742 What a Friend we have in 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.

OFFERING

MUSICAL OFFERING The Lord's Prayer - Albert Hay Malotte
arranged for organ by Henrietta Dippman Griswold

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

Living and redeeming God, in Christ, you have made us fully alive, setting us free from all that would hold us captive. As we bring these gifts, we do so in gratitude, abounding in thanksgiving for your grace. May these offerings be signs of our rootedness in you, bearing fruit for your kingdom. Let them be used to bring hope, healing, and new life to those in need. Keep us steadfast in Christ, walking in faith and filled with the joy of your transforming love. In the name of the one who makes us whole, we pray. **Amen.**

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

Each petition will end with the words:

God of grace,
hear our prayer.

The prayers conclude:

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

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.

+ SENDING +

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

ANNOUNCEMENTS

BENEDICTION

Go now in the blessing and power of God
who gives us life, that you may grow in faith
and live as bearers of love and life everywhere you go.
Amen.

SENDING HYMN ELW 834 Immortal, Invisible, God Only Wise

DISMISSAL

Go in peace. Live by the Spirit.
Thanks be to God.

POSTLUDE Chaconne, (after Couperin) - Gordon Young

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We appreciate The Reverend Marcia Bell for serving as our supply pastor this Sunday. She was born in Philadelphia and grew up in Abington. 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.

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.

Mark Your Calendar

Saturday, August 2, 2025 9-11am Open Link Food Collection

Sunday, August 3 9:30am Worship
Following worship—Outreach meeting

Open Link Food Collection is Saturday from 9-11 AM. The pantry is specifically asking for donations of canned chicken and tuna, condiments, fruit juice, pasta, rice, jelly and personal care and cleaning supplies.

Fridays at the Firepit! Join us Friday, August 8th at 7pm. Bring a chair and join the fun!

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.

Order your hoagie by Monday, August 11th. Sign up outside PB's office or contact Elaine Keller at elainekeller@comcast.net or 215-262-5366.

National Night Out will be here at St. John's on Saturday, August 9th from 3-6pm. Come out and meet our local police and fire fighters, safety demonstrations, music, games and food and more! If you can help out, please contact Paul Barndt (pbarndt@barndtagency.com).

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!



FREE EVENT!
Music ~ Games ~ Food

2025 NATIONAL NIGHT Out

Saturday, August 9 | 3-6pm
St. Johns Church
3104 Main Street, Green Lane
Meet Upper Perk Valley's
Police Officers – EMS – Fire Fighters

Safety demonstrations, youth events,
emergency personnel visits, exhibits
and much, much more.

National Night Out is observed by millions
of neighbors across thousands of communities
from all fifty states in August.

NATIONAL NIGHT OUT!

CARE TO CHANGE COLLECTION



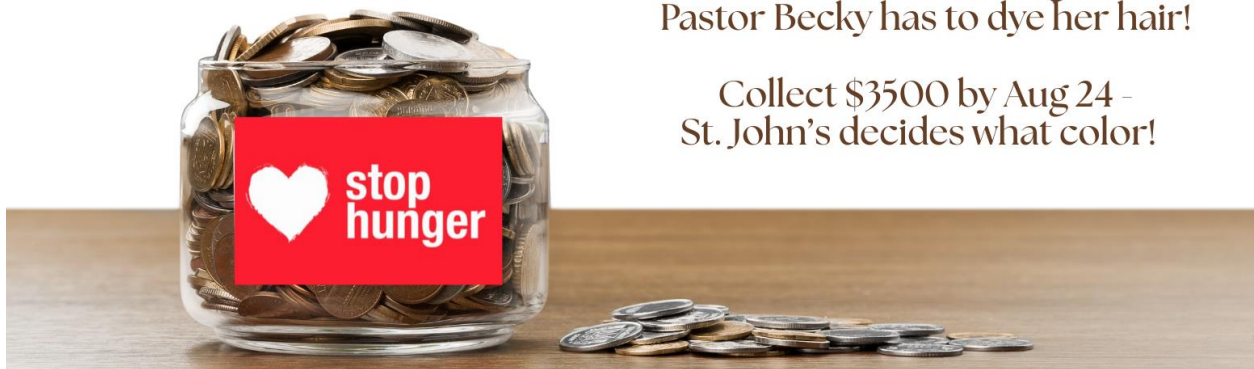
Now thru August 24

This summer, the pastors of the Reformed churches in the Upper Perkiomen Valley are issuing a challenge to their congregations to care about changing the face of hunger locally and globally. Two of the main projects of the Reformed churches are the free community Thanksgiving meal that follows Thanksgiving worship in late November and a meal packaging event for Rise Against Hunger.

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!





*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.

