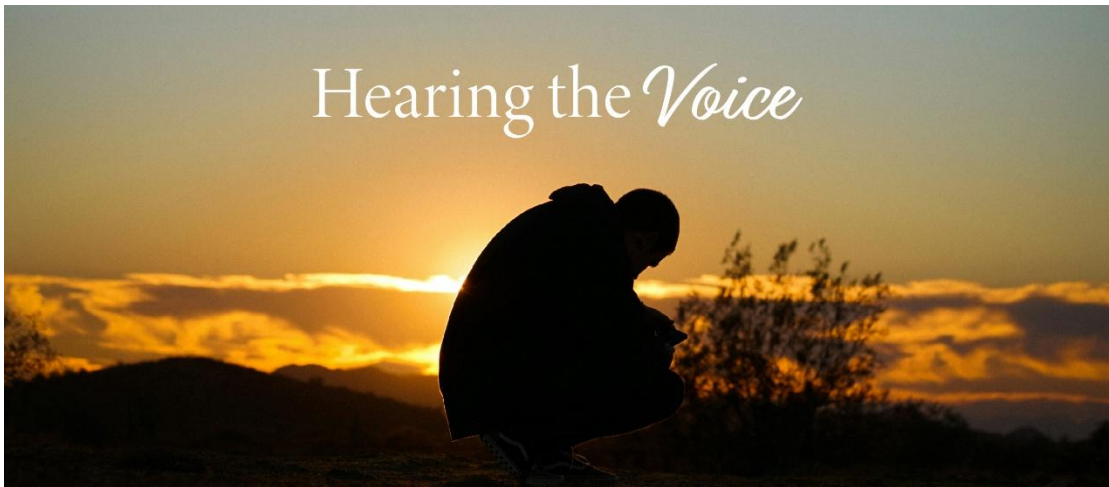


*Welcome to  
St. John's Evangelical Lutheran Church  
By God's example, St. John's invites and welcomes everyone to  
be ignited by the Spirit and to grow in God's love.  
May all those seeking love, acceptance and support find it here.*

Fourth Sunday after Pentecost • June 21, 2026 • 9:30am



God does not promise that the path of the disciple will be easy. Jeremiah feels the pain of rejection from those who do not want to hear what he has to say. Jesus declares that his words may bring stark division. Even so, we need not be afraid for God accounts for each hair on our heads. Though we may experience rejection, frustration, division, and death, God's grace and love make us a new creation each day. Marked with the cross and filled with holy food, we are sent from worship to witness to Christ in the world.

## Our Mission:

### Ignited by Spirit, Growing in Love



**We strive to be a community that is open to the Spirit of God that moves, changes and inspires us to connect with God and one another, everyday, everywhere.**

## WELCOME

We are so glad you are here with us this morning. We pray that you will meet God in worship and that your faith will be strengthened as you prepare to go out into the world in the coming week. If you are a guest with us this morning, welcome to the family! We would love to share information with you about St. John's - fill out a pew card and place it in the offering plate or sign the guest book in the narthex so we can reach out!

## PRAYER LIST

Please continue to keep the following people connected to our congregation in your prayers: Leonard Gibeon, David Mounts, Steve Keyser, Andrew Breuninger, Renee Fels, Rebecca Jellen, Richard Ditzler, Alyson Harvey, Marie Wolfe, Mary Eberle, Richard Blanchard, Elizabeth Brossett and family, Paige Seasock, Tanner Antalosky, Will Morgan, Barry Long, Jim Martin, Mike Wolf, Michael Svanson, Linda Quinque, Marilyn Little-Logan, Ed & Pam Bowlin, Josephine D'Amico, Bob Schanely and Bob Ernst.

*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](mailto:stj.stown@verizon.net).*

## + THE GATHERING +

## WELCOME

PRELUDE Praise to the Lord, the Almighty – J.G.Walther

## LIGHTING OF THE TRINITY CANDLE

We are a community of faith that is

**Ignited by Spirit, Growing in Love.**

We begin our worship in the name of the Father, the Son and the Holy Spirit. **Amen.**

*Please rise in body or spirit*

OPENING HYMN ELW 858 Praise to the Lord, the Almighty

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.**

CONFESSION

Blessed be the holy Trinity, one God, whose compassion endures forever.

**Amen.**

Let us confess our sin to God.

*Silence is kept for reflection.*

Compassionate God,

**we confess to you all our sins. Our burden is heavy, and we cannot free ourselves. In your mercy, call us back to you. Your yoke is easy and your burden is light. Restore us to dwell in your peace. In Christ's name we pray, Amen.**

Jesus says, "Come to me, all you who are weary and are carrying heavy burdens, and I will give you rest." In the name of God, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, your sins are forgiven. Rest in God's love.

**Amen**

OPENING PRAYER

Teach us, good Lord God, to serve you as you deserve, to give and not to count the cost, to fight and not to heed the wounds, to toil and not to seek for rest, to labor and not to ask for reward, except that of knowing that we do your will, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. **Amen.**

+ WORD +

FIRST READING: Genesis 21:8-21

*At the conclusion of the reading:*

The Word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

PSALM: Psalm 86:1-10, 16-17

Bow down your ear, O LORD, and answer me,  
for I am poor and in misery.

**Keep watch over my life, for I am faithful;  
save your servant who trusts in you.**

Be merciful to me, O Lord, for you are my God;  
I call upon you all the day long.

**Gladden the soul of your servant,  
for to you, O Lord, I lift up my soul.**

For you, O Lord, are good and forgiving,  
and abundant in mercy toward all who call upon you.

**Give ear, O LORD, to my prayer,  
and attend to the voice of my supplications.**

In the time of my trouble I will call upon you,  
for you will answer me.

**Among the gods there is none like you, O Lord,  
nor anything like your works.**

All the nations you have made will come and worship you, O Lord,  
and glorify your name.

**For you are great; you do wondrous things;  
and you alone are God.**

Turn to me and have mercy on me;  
give your strength to your servant, and save the child of your handmaid.

**Show me a sign of your favor, so that those who hate me may see it and be put to  
shame;**

**because you, LORD, have helped me and comforted me.**

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.

The image shows two systems of musical notation for a Gospel Acclamation. Each system consists of a vocal line (treble clef) and a piano accompaniment line (bass clef). The key signature is one flat (B-flat). The melody is simple and repetitive, with the lyrics 'Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.' written below the notes. The piano accompaniment provides a steady harmonic support with chords and moving lines.

*Please rise in body or spirit.*

GOSPEL: Matthew 10:24-39

*At the beginning of the reading:*

The holy Gospel according to Matthew.

**Glory to you, O Lord.**

*At the conclusion of the reading:*

This is the gospel of the Lord.

**Praise to you, O Christ.**

*Please be seated*

SERMON

Rev. Rebecca Schanely

HYMN OF THE DAY ELW 461 All Who Hunger, Gather Gladly

## APOSTLE'S 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 OF THE PEOPLE

*Each petition ends with the phrase:*

God of grace,

**hear our prayer.**

*The prayers conclude:*

Trusting you receive all our prayers, we commend our spoken and unspoken prayers to you, O God, through Jesus our Savior.

**Amen.**

+ THE MEAL +

## OFFERING

## MUSICAL OFFERING

Invocation - Paul Karvonen

## OFFERTORY



- 1 Ac - cept, O Lord, the gifts we bring to place up - on your ta - ble.
- 2 The vines were plant - ed, seeds were sown. They grew in your good plea - sure.



We do not wor - ship as we ought but on - ly as we're a - ble.  
What once was com - mon, dail - y food be - comes a ho - ly trea - sure.

## OFFERING PRAYER

Listening God, you hear the cries we whisper and the cries we cannot speak. In a world still marked by fear, abandonment, and unfairness, you remain the one who listens and who hears the voices of the outcast, the wounded, the overlooked. As we bring our offerings today, open our ears as yours are open. Make our giving an act of solidarity with those whose voices rise in need. Use these gifts to reveal your presence, to bring water into desert places, and to remind all your children that they are not alone. Shape us into people who hear because we have been heard. **We ask this in Jesus' name. 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 God thanks and praise.**

## WORDS OF INSTITUTION

### 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.**

### LAMB OF GOD





### INVITATION TO THE TABLE

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

**Thanks be to God.**

### SHARING OF COMMUNION

*Communion will be shared continuously. Please come forward down the center aisle and return to your seat by the side aisle. You will receive the bread from the pastor and then be invited to take a pre-filled cup from the tray held by the communion assistant. Wine is in the clear cups and grape juice is in the purple cups. Empty cups can be placed in the bowls at the end of the first pew as you return to your seat. All are welcome!*

### MUSIC DURING COMMUNION ELW 620 How Sweet the Name of Jesus Sounds

### TABLE BLESSING

### PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

Compassionate God, through the gifts of bread and wine our hearts are filled with the abundance of your love. Strengthen us that we, through this holy meal, may share your love freely, as you have shared with us. We ask this in the name of Jesus, through the Spirit nourishing us now and forever. **Amen.**

+ SENDING +

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

### ANNOUNCEMENTS

BENEDICTION

Creator, Redeemer, Sustainer,  
one God,  
bless, heal, and hold you  
today and always.

**Amen.**

SENDING SONG ELW 733 Great Is Thy Faithfulness

DISMISSAL

Go in peace. Share the good news.

**Thanks be to God.**

POSTLUDE The Golden Trumpet - Lani Smith

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**Mark Your Calendar**

Sunday, June 21	Make Music Upper Perk today – 11am to 7pm
Monday, June 22 - 26	Vacation Bible School is here! 9am – 12 pm
Wednesday, June 24	Food Truck from 5-8pm
Sunday, June 28	Sunday worship 9:30 am Heavenly Helpers Red Robin event Private event in Fellowship Hall 1-5pm

**VBS is here!** We are excited to welcome the children to a fun filled week exploring God's love through music, storytelling, art, science, games, and hands-on activities.

**Sunday Morning Coffee Bar** - Join us at the coffee bar at the back entrance for coffee, hot tea, breakfast treats and conversation starting at 9:00 am.

**Food Truck** All are welcome to come out and enjoy some good food, refreshments, live music, sweet treats and fellowship. The event is from 5-to 8pm. Questions, please contact Paul Barndt (pbarndt@barndtagency.com)

**Heavenly Helpers** June 28<sup>th</sup> Red Robin in Quakertown, dining in or take out between 4-8pm, mention Heavenly Helpers and HH will receive a portion of the proceeds. Next month's hoagie sale - orders are due July 5<sup>th</sup>. Contact Elaine Keller with questions. elaineakeller@comcast.net

**The Open Link** Reminder no food donation collection at the church on Saturday, July 4<sup>th</sup> – if you wish to donate items other than the scheduled days, please place them on the table outside the kitchen.

**First Monday Meal** St John's is scheduled to prepare and serve the July 6<sup>th</sup> meal at Pennsburg UCC. sign-up Genius link below to donate dinner items or to volunteer. <https://www.signupgenius.com/go/10C0F4EAEAC23A1F9C16-64527653-first> to donate dinner items or to volunteer. Questions: Contact Jamie @ 215.960.8340 or jernst169@gmail.com

Menu: Sweet Italian Sausage with peppers, onions, sausage, Pasta Salad, Chips, Fruit Salad, iced tea, lemonade, water.

**Taizé Prayer Services** Reformation Sister congregations will be hosting monthly Taizé prayer services. Worship is candlelit service of song, scripture, silence and reflection. Join us on the 3<sup>rd</sup> Wednesday of the month, The Center, 517 Jefferson St., East Greenville at 6:00pm. July 15<sup>th</sup>.

**Friday at the Firepit** located on St John's lawn (behind the playground), join us for an evening of fellowship. Relax and enjoy some sweet treats. Water and s'mores ingredients are provided. Don't forget your lawn chairs! All are welcome!

**The OPEN LINK** summer meal program has begun. Grab and Go meals are available for school age children. Volunteer opportunities on the distribution days: we need between 4-6 morning volunteers to open boxes, pick daily menu items, pack meals, and load them into our refrigerated van. Then pack dry product for the next day’s menu, breakdown boxes, cleanup trash and put in the dumpster. Additionally, 2 drivers are needed each delivery day to distribute meals at our delivery sites. Please visit The Open Link website for additional details.

**The Rotary club** is looking for volunteers to help with the annual Hometown July 4<sup>th</sup> celebration held at the New Goshenhoppen park. Contact Sarah Toback at sarah Toback@gmail.com

**St. Luke’s Lutheran church** holding a free workshop cybersecurity to educate people how to stay safe online. The event is held at the at 3206 Big Road, Zieglerville PA, Thursday June 25<sup>th</sup> at 3:00 pm. Additional details available on the church bulletin boards.

<b>OUR RESPONSE TO GOD’S LOVE</b>		
<b>Worship Attendance</b>		
06/014/2026 – 10:30 outdoor service – 65 Zoom - 0		
	Total received between 06/07/2026 – 06/14/2026 \$6029.72	Amount Needed per 2 weeks in 2026 \$11,656
<i>Weekly average is based on the 2026 budget. The above numbers include electronic giving. Mint duty is being done every other week.</i>		
<i>Memorial gift in memory of Louise Clare received from the Green Lane Marlboro Lion’s Club</i>		

**Family Bathroom** The family bathroom project has started. Designated fund for donations, write “Family Bathroom” on an envelope or you may donate online through St. John’s website!



*Ignited by Spirit  
Growing in Love*

### **SERVING THIS SUNDAY**

Andi Swavely, Reader  
Dean Heller & Erika Haldeman, Ushers  
John Hovanec & Bob Ernst, Communion assistants

### **COUNCIL MEMBERS**

David Ramil, Council President  
Shannon Renninger, Council Vice-President  
Robyn Schramm, Council Secretary  
Mike Herm, Council Treasurer  
Tony Aleide, Finance  
Brandon Bolton, Property  
Joyce Foesig, Staff  
Sheila Hercek, Outreach  
Travis Hobson, Marketing and Communications  
John Hovanec, Faith Formation  
Nate Schramm, Youth Representative  
Mike Wolf, Worship and Music

### **STAFF**

Rev. Rebecca L. Schanely, Pastor  
([pastorbecky74@gmail.com](mailto:pastorbecky74@gmail.com))

Denise Fox, Office Administrator ([stj.stown@verizon.net](mailto:stj.stown@verizon.net))

Ben Modica, Director of Music ([ben@patriciakeith.com](mailto:ben@patriciakeith.com))

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

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