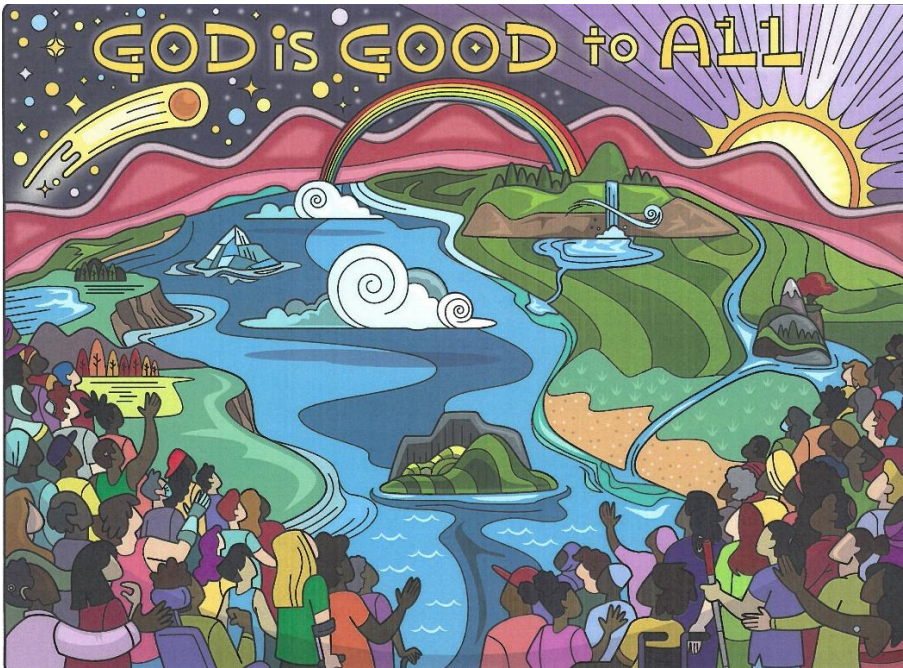


*Welcome to
St. John's Evangelical Lutheran Church
By God's example, St. John's invites and welcomes everyone to
be ignited by the Spirit and to grow in God's love.
May all those seeking love, acceptance and support find it here.*

Sixth Sunday after Pentecost • July 5, 2026 • 9:30am



The mystery of God's ways is sometimes hidden from the wise and intelligent. The prophet describes an everlasting realm that contrasts with earthly nations, one marked by peace, humility, and freedom. Jesus associates with those excluded from the religious community. Like Paul, we struggle with selfish desires; we lament flawed systems; and we seek God's mercy and forgiveness. We gather around word, water, and meal by Christ's invitation: "Come to me, all you that are weary." Here we find rest for our souls and hope for life in beloved community.

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, Brandon 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.

+ THE GATHERING +

WELCOME

The congregation is invited to observe the prelude time as one of reverent silence.

PRELUDE Trumpet Air - James Bremner, arr. Jon Spong

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.**

OPENING HYMN ELW 611 I Heard the Voice of Jesus Say

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 AND FORGIVENESS

Blessed be the holy Trinity, one God, source of hope in every nation, rest for the weary,
glory and peace to the ends of the earth. **Amen.**

Let us bring every burden to God.

Silence is kept for reflection.

God of all mercy,

we have sinned against you, our neighbors, and your creation. Within ourselves and our communities, our desire to do what is good is at war with the evil that dwells in us. We lament the evil that holds us captive. We repent of the evil we have done, and the evil done on our behalf. Rescue us, forgive us, and restore us for lives of compassion and courage through our Savior Jesus Christ. Amen.

All-merciful, Almighty God forgive you all your sins through the grace of Jesus Christ,
and by the Spirit's power strengthen you in doing what is good.

Amen.

PRAYER OF THE DAY

You are great, O God, and greatly to be praised. You have made us for yourself, and our hearts are restless until they rest in you. Grant that we may believe in you, call upon you, know you, and serve you, through your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

Amen.

+ WORD +

FIRST READING: Matthew 11:16-19, 25-30

At the conclusion of the reading:

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

PSALM: Psalm 45:10-17

“Hear, O daughter; consider and listen closely;
forget your people and your father’s house.

**The king will desire your beauty;
he is your master, so bow before him.**

The city of Tyre brings tribute;
the wealthiest of the people seek your favor.”

**All glorious is the princess as she enters;
her gown is cloth-of-gold.**

In embroidered apparel she is brought to the king;
after her the bridesmaids follow in procession.

**With joy and gladness they are brought,
and enter into the palace of the king.**

“In place of ancestors, O king, you shall have sons;
you shall make them princes over all the earth.

**I will make your name to be remembered from one generation to another;
therefore nations will praise you forever and ever.”**

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

GOSPEL: Genesis 24:34-38, 42-49, 58-67

At the beginning of the reading:

The holy Gospel according to Genesis.

Glory to you, O Lord.

At the conclusion of the reading:

This is the gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, O Christ.

HYMN OF THE DAY For Everyone Born vs 1-3

E *Leader or All* *A2*

1 For ev - ery - one born, a place at the ta - ble,
 2 For wom - an and man, a place at the ta - ble,
 3 For young and for old, a place at the ta - ble,

E *A2* *Bsus* *B*

for ev - ery - one born, clean wa - ter and bread,
 re - vis - ing the roles, de - cid - ing the share,
 a voice to be heard, a part in the song,

F#m7 *E/G#* *A2* *Bsus*

a shel - ter, a space, a safe place for grow - ing,
 with wis - dom and grace, di - vid - ing the pow - er,
 the hands of a child in hands that are wrin - kled,

E *Bsus* *E* *Bsus*

for ev - ery - one born, a star o - ver - head,
 for wom - an and man, a sys - tem that's fair,
 for young and for old, the right to be - long,

Refrain *B* *All* *E* *E/G#* *A2* *Bsus* *B*

and God will de-light when we are cre - a - tors of jus - tice and

E *E/G#* *A2* *Bsus* *B*

joy, com - pas - sion and peace: yes,

C#m *C#m/B* *A2*

God will de-light when we are cre - a - tors of jus - tice,

Bsus *B* *(E)* *Fine* *A2* *E* *Bsus* *B*

jus - tice and joy!

HYMN OF THE DAY For Everyone Born vs. 4-5

E Leader or All *A2*

4 For just and un - just, a place at the ta - ble,
 5 For ev - ery - one born, a place at the ta - ble,

E *A2* *Bsus* *B*

a - bus - er, a - bused, with need to for - give,
 to live with - out fear, and sim - ply to be,

F#m7 *E/G#* *A2* *Bsus*

in an - ger, in hurt, a mind - set of mer - cy,
 to work, to speak out, to wit - ness and wor - ship,

E *Bsus* *E* *Bsus*

for just and un - just, a new way to live,
 for ev - ery - one born, the right to be free,

Refrain *B All* *E* *E/G#* *A2* *Bsus* *B*

and God will de-light when we are cre - a - tors of jus - tice and

E *E/G#* *A2* *Bsus* *B*

joy, com - pas - sion and peace: yes,

C#m *C#m/B* *A2*

God will de-light when we are cre - a - tors of jus - tice,

Bsus *B* *(E)* *Fine* *A2* *E* *Bsus* *B*

jus - tice and joy!

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

Each petition ends:

God of grace,

hear our prayer.

The prayers conclude:

Into your mercy, O God, we entrust our restless hearts and all our cares, through Jesus Christ, our Savior.

Amen.

+ THE MEAL +

OFFERING

MUSICAL OFFERING All Hail the Power of Jesus' Name - setting by Wilbur Held
Sadie Hanish, cello

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

Blessed are you, O God, for waves of grain and harvesters, fruitful vines and winepresses, for our labor and our rest, for the gifts of your hand in this land. Transform us and what we offer into the banquet of your compassion, serving your love without limits through Jesus Christ, our Savior. **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



Lamb of God, you take a - way the sin of the world; have
mer - cy on us. Lamb of God, you take a - way the sin of the
world; have mer - cy on us. Lamb of God, you take a -
way the sin of the world; grant us peace, grant us peace.

INVITATION TO THE TABLE

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

Thanks be to God.

SHARING OF COMMUNION - from the floor

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 502 The King of Love my Shepherd is

TABLE BLESSING

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

We thank you, God of heaven and earth, that you fill our deepest need with the very gift of Jesus Christ, broken and poured out for us. Pour us out into a broken world. Channel our common life toward the common good, following the way our Savior leads us now and forever. **Amen.**

+ SENDING +

ANNOUNCEMENTS

AFFIRMATION OF CHRISTIAN VOCATION IN CIVIC LIFE

People of God, you are chosen and named as God's beloved.

You have received the gift of Christian vocation,
a holy calling lived out in various dimensions of your life,
your relationships and communities,
your work and your rest.

Daily and richly we live in the promises of holy baptism,
sustained by grace to trust God,
proclaim Christ through word and deed,
care for others and the world God made,
and work for justice and peace.

I ask you, therefore:

Will you endeavor to pattern your life on Jesus Christ,
in gratitude to God and in service to others?

I will, and I ask God to help me.

Will you strive to pursue the common good in public life,
nurturing mutual care among neighbors near and far?

I will, and I ask God to help me.

Will you pledge to bear witness in word and action,
commending what is true and right,
renouncing what is unjust and harmful,
and working to mend what is flawed?

I will, and I ask God to help me.

Sovereign God, your Son Jesus lived within the structures of society even as he spoke truth to those in power and challenged systems of oppression. Give to your servants courage, patience, and vision in their commitment to serve in Christ's name. Empower us all in our Christian vocation to be courageous disciples and responsible citizens. Grant that our life in the public realm be grounded in love for our neighbors, care for the most vulnerable, and respect for the common life we share, through Jesus Christ our Savior.

Amen.

BENEDICTION

The Author of life,
the Word of salvation,
the Breath of new birth,
one God, bless you
and equip you for living and serving,
today and every day.

Amen.

SENDING SONG In This Time of Great Reflection



In this time of great re - flect - ion on two hun - dred fif - ty years,
Here is what holds us to - ge - ther: Mer - cy, love, com - mu - ni - ty.
We re - call our na - tion's sto - ry. Keep us ho - nest, God a - bove!
Will we work for ra - cial just - ice? Will we turn from fear and hate?
In this time, O God, re - store us to the land we're called to be—



We re - mem - ber, as a na - tion, times we've prospered, times of tears.
We're to seek to care for neigh - bors in a just so - ci - e - ty.
In our quest for wealth and glo - ry, we have injured ones you love.
What is now the pub - lic wit - ness that you call us to cre - ate?
Where all peo - ple here a - mong us know your blest com - mu - ni - ty.



“We shall be,” a preach - er told us, “as a ci - ty on a hill” -
If we fail to help the need - y and to build a land that's just,
Through en - slave ment, through displacement, we have cho - sen ways of sin.
As we cel - e - brate our coun - try, help us, Lord, to un - der - stand:
May we seek to be that ci - ty, not with pride but as a prayer.



Not to praise us but to warn us: we've a du - ty to ful - fill.
We will simp - ly be a by - word as the world looks on at us.
We've been vio - lent. We've stayed si - lent. So our light of love stays dim.
All of us must share the boun - ty and the good news of the land.
May we love and serve you humb - ly, in our land and eve - ry - where.

DISMISSAL

Go in peace. Seek liberty and justice for all. **Thanks be to God.**

POSTLUDE Let tyrants shake their iron rod – setting by Robert J. Powell

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Mark Your Calendar

Sunday, July 5	Heavenly Helpers Hoagie orders due
Sunday, July 12	Worship service, 9:30 am
Monday, July 13	Council meeting, 7:30 pm
Wednesday, July 15	Taizé Worship service, 6:00 pm
Thursday, July 16	Card Club, 10 am Heavenly Helpers Hoagie order pickup, 5-6 pm
Saturday, July 18	Private event, 1-5pm, Fellowship Hall
Sunday, July 19	Worship service at 9:30 am Heavenly Helpers Chicken BBQ event 1-4pm

Heavenly Helpers – Hoagie orders are due today, sign up sheet is on the bulletin board outside Pastor Becky's office. There is also a sign-up sheet for our next even on July 19th from 1-4 pm - Kauffman's Chicken BBQ meal, cost \$15.00.

HH is also looking for volunteers to provide dessert items for this event. Please contact Elaine Kelly elaineakeller@comcast.net with any questions.

We would also like to thank everyone who came out to support HH. The Moccias event raised \$135 and Red Robin event \$180! We are so very grateful for the support!

Friday at the Firepit is July 24th, come out for an evening of fellowship. Relax and enjoy some sweet treats. Water and s'mores ingredients are provided.

Don't forget your lawn chairs and beverage of choice. All are welcome!



First Monday Meal - St John's is scheduled to prepare and serve the meal at Pennsburg UCC tomorrow evening. Please be sure to check the sign-up Genius link below to view any areas help or food items still needed.

<https://www.signupgenius.com/go/10C0F4EAEAC23A1F9C16-64527653-first>

If you signed up to donate a food item, please drop off today after the worship service or contact Jamie to make other arrangements.

Place donations on the table outside the kitchen, if refrigeration needed, place in 1st refrigerator in the kitchen - mark for FMM. Thank you!

Questions: Contact Jamie @ 215.960.8340 or jernst169@gmail.com

The Open Link – The first Saturday of the month donation drop off at the church, 9-11am. If you are not able to stop by on the scheduled time, donations can be left at the church, there is a collection table located in the Gym. Visit The Open Link website for a list of most needed items in the pantry. All donations are welcome. Be sure to check expiration dates. Questions, contact Diane Appold

Taizé Prayer Services Reformation Sister congregations Taizé prayer services. Worship is candlelit service of song, scripture, silence and reflection. Join us on the 3rd Wednesday of the month, next service is July 15th. We meet at The Center, 517 Jefferson St., East Greenville at 6:00pm.

St. Luke's Grief Support – Berevement support groups are facilitated by a St Luke's grief counselors. Provides a safe and collaborative space to process your grief journey. July 13th the group meets at Zwingli, UCC Church, 350 Wile Ave. Souderton 1-2:30 pm. Flyers are posted on the bulletin boards with list of other support opportunities.

Blood Drive – July blood drive is scheduled for July 24th 12 to 5 pm. Online sign-up to schedule an appointment available online, visit RedCrossBlood.org, enter StJohnSumneytown to scheduled your appointment. OR Call 800.733.2767.

Celebrate more life Give blood.

Family Bathroom The family bathroom project has started. The fixtures were ordered and have arrived. If you would like to donate, please write “Family Bathroom” on an envelope to designate the funds to the family bathroom project or you may donate online through St. John’s website!

Food Truck – July 22nd from 5-8 pm enjoy an evening of food, live music and fun. Food by Pig ‘N’ Out food truck, sweet treats will be available for dessert from Cream & Ice! Live music by Stephen Kurtz. Drinks available for purchase from Free Will Brewing & Salford Station Sprits.

Bring a friend, all are welcome!

OUR RESPONSE TO GOD’S LOVE		
Worship Attendance 06/21/2026 worship service – 57 Zoom - 3		
	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 received in memory of Ronald Sweinhart by his wife Sarah Sweinhart</i>		

St. John's Summer Service Project -During the summer months, St. John's will be collecting the items needed for hygiene kits that are used by Lutheran Disaster Response. Each hygiene kit fits in a one-gallon resealable plastic bag and contains 8 items. You can drop off any of the items needed for the kits – OR drop of a fully complete kit. Collection container is located in the Parlor.

Kits will be delivered in early September to LDR to support local relief efforts.



LDR HYGIENE KIT

Each kit should be packaged in a gallon size, resealable plastic bag and must contain the following items:



New Washcloth



Fingernail or toenail clipper
(remove packaging)



Travel Size Shampoo
3.4 oz or less



Travel Size Lotion
3.4 oz or less
fragrance free



Travel Size Toothpaste
3.4 oz or less



Travel Size Deodorant
3.4 oz or less
non aerosol



Bath Sized Bar of Soap
in original packaging



Sturdy wide-tooth comb
6" minimum teeth
remove packaging

Completed hygiene kits - or individual items for the kits - can be left in the collection bins in the narthex and parlor



*Ignited by Spirit
Growing in Love*

SERVING THIS SUNDAY

Joyce Foesig & Shannon Renninger – A/V team

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)

Denise Fox, Office Administrator (stj.stown@verizon.net)

Ben Modica, Director of Music (ben@patriciakeith.com)

Michele Peart, Bookkeeper

Jamie Nonkovic, Coordinator of Children's Faith Formation

Bob Ernst, Facilities Manager

Michael Herm, Treasurer

3104 Main Street, Green Lane, PA 18054

215-234-4888 (phone) 215-234-0825 (fax)