



Tenth Sunday after Pentecost

August 1, 2021

9:30 a.m.

Welcome to St. John

St. John Lutheran Church 1802 Skippack Pike, Blue Bell, PA 19422

www.stjohnbluebell.org www.facebook.com/stjohnbluebell

Nursery School website: www.stjohnsns.com

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Our Council Members are listed on our website.

Celebrating 252 years of mission and ministry, 1769-2021.



**Evangelical Lutheran
Church in America**

God's work. Our hands.

This service is livestreamed on our Facebook page and posted to YouTube.

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Order for Worship

Prelude ~ "We Are a Garden Walled Around"

MajaLisa Fritzhuspen, Mezzo-Soprano

We are a garden walled around, chosen and made peculiar ground;
a little spot inclosed by grace out of the world's wide wilderness.

Like trees of myrrh and spice we stand, planted by God the Father's hand;
and all his springs in Sion flow, to make the young plantation grow.

Let my Beloved come, and taste his pleasant fruits at his own feast,
"I come, my spouse, I come," he cries, with love and pleasure in his eyes.

Our Lord into the garden comes, well pleased to smell our poor perfumes,
and calls us to a feast divine, sweeter than honey, milk, or wine.

Jesus, we will frequent thy board, and sing the praises of our Lord:
but the rich food on which we live demands more praise than tongues can give.

Text: Isaac Watts, 1674-1748

Music: Robert Buckley Farlee

Confession and Forgiveness

All may make the sign of the cross, the sign marked at baptism, as the presiding minister begins.

P: Blessed be the holy Trinity, † one God,
who forgives all our sin,
whose mercy endures forever.

C: **Amen.**

P: Almighty God, to whom all hearts are open, all desires known, and from whom no secrets
are hid: cleanse the thoughts of our hearts by the inspiration of your Holy Spirit, that we
may perfectly love you and worthily magnify your holy name, through Jesus Christ our
Lord.

C: **Amen.**

P: Most merciful God,

C: **we confess that we are captive to sin and cannot free ourselves. We have sinned against
you in thought, word, and deed, by what we have done and by what we have left
undone. We have not loved you with our whole heart; we have not loved our neighbors
as ourselves. For the sake of your Son, Jesus Christ, have mercy on us. Forgive us,
renew us, and lead us, so that we may delight in your will and walk in your ways, to the
glory of your holy name.**

Amen.

P: In the mercy of almighty God, Jesus Christ was given to die for us, and for his sake God forgives us all our sins. As a called and ordained minister of the church of Christ, and by his authority, I therefore declare to you the entire forgiveness of all your sins, in the name of the Father, and of the † Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

C: **Amen.**

Greeting

P: The grace and peace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

C: **And also with you.**

Hymn of Praise ~ “Guide Me, Ever, Great Redeemer”

1 Guide me ev - er, great Re - deem - er, pil - grim through this
2 O - pen now the crys - tal foun - tain where the heal - ing
3 When I tread the verge of Jor - dan, bid my anx - ious

bar - ren land. I am weak, but you are might - y; hold me
wa - ters flow; let the fire and cloud - y pil - lar lead me
fears sub - side; death of death and hell's de - struc - tion, land me

with your pow'r-ful hand. Bread of heav - en, bread of heav - en,
 all my jour - ney through. Strong de - liv - 'rer, strong de - liv - 'rer,
 safe on Ca - naan's side. Songs and prais - es, songs and prais - es

feed me now and ev - er-more, ev - er-more, feed me now and ev - er - more.
 shield me with your might-y arm, might-y arm, shield me with your might-y arm.
 I will raise for - ev - er-more, ev - er-more, I will raise for - ev - er - more.

Text: William Williams, 1717–1791; tr. William Williams and Peter Williams, 1722–1796, alt.
 Music: CWM RHONDDA, John Hughes, 1873–1932

Prayer of the Day

P: O God, eternal goodness, immeasurable love, you place your gifts before us; we eat and are satisfied. Fill us and this world in all its need with the life that comes only from you, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

C: **Amen.**

Children's Message

Word

First Reading: Exodus 16:2-4, 9-15

A: The whole congregation of the Israelites complained against Moses and Aaron in the wilderness. The Israelites said to them, "If only we had died by the hand of the LORD in the land of Egypt, when we sat by the fleshpots and ate our fill of bread; for you have brought us out into this wilderness to kill this whole assembly with hunger."

Then the LORD said to Moses, "I am going to rain bread from heaven for you, and each day the people shall go out and gather enough for that day. In that way I will test them, whether they will follow my instruction or not."

Then Moses said to Aaron, "Say to the whole congregation of the Israelites, 'Draw near to the LORD, for he has heard your complaining.'" And as Aaron spoke to the whole congregation of the Israelites, they looked toward the wilderness, and the glory of the LORD appeared in the cloud. The LORD spoke to Moses and said, "I have heard the complaining of the Israelites; say to them, 'At twilight you shall eat meat, and in the morning, you shall have your fill of bread; then you shall know that I am the LORD your God.'"

In the evening quails came up and covered the camp; and in the morning there was a layer of dew around the camp. When the layer of dew lifted, there on the surface of the wilderness was a fine flaky substance, as fine as frost on the ground. When the Israelites saw it, they said to one another, "What is it?" For they did not know what it was. Moses said to them, "It is the bread that the LORD has given you to eat."

Word of God, word of life.

C: **Thanks be to God.**

Psalm 78

(Cantor, then ALL)

Psalm 78 Paul Tate

The Lord gave them bread from heav-en. The
Lord gave them bread from heav-en.

The musical notation consists of two staves in G major (one sharp) and 4/4 time. The first staff is for the Cantor and the second for the All. The lyrics are: "The Lord gave them bread from heav-en. The Lord gave them bread from heav-en." The melody is simple and repetitive, with a final cadence on the second staff.

The English translation of the Psalm Response from the *Lectionary for Mass*
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The things we have heard and understood,
the things our fathers have told us, we will tell to the next generation:
the glories of the Lord and his might, and the marvelous deeds he has done. **Refrain**

He commanded the clouds above and opened the gates of heaven.
He rained down manna to eat and gave them bread from heaven. **Refrain**

Man ate the bread of angels. He sent them abundance of food.
So he brought them to his holy land, to the mountain his right hand had won. **Refrain**

Second Reading: Ephesians 4:1-16

I therefore, the prisoner in the Lord, beg you to lead a life worthy of the calling to which you have been called, with all humility and gentleness, with patience, bearing with one another in love, making every effort to maintain the unity of the Spirit in the bond of peace. There is one body and one Spirit, just as you were called to the one hope of your calling, one Lord, one faith, one baptism, one God and Father of all, who is above all and through all and in all.

But each of us was given grace according to the measure of Christ's gift. Therefore, it is said, "When he ascended on high, he made captivity itself a captive; he gave gifts to his people."

When it says, "He ascended," what does it mean but that he had also descended into the lower parts of the earth? He who descended is the same one who ascended far above all the heavens, so that he might fill all things. The gifts he gave were that some would be apostles, some prophets, some evangelists, some pastors and teachers, to equip the saints for the work of ministry, for building up the body of Christ, until all of us come to the unity of the faith and of the knowledge of the Son of God, to maturity, to the measure of the full stature of Christ. We must no longer be children, tossed

to and fro and blown about by every wind of doctrine, by people's trickery, by their craftiness in deceitful scheming. But speaking the truth in love, we must grow up in every way into him who is the head, into Christ, from whom the whole body, joined and knit together by every ligament with which it is equipped, as each part is working properly, promotes the body's growth in building itself up in love.

Word of God, word of life.

C: Thanks be to God.

Gospel: John 6:24-35

P: The Holy Gospel according to John.

C: Glory to you, O Lord.

P: When the crowd saw that neither Jesus nor his disciples were beside the sea, they themselves got into the boats and went to Capernaum looking for Jesus.

When they found him on the other side of the sea, they said to him, "Rabbi, when did you come here?" Jesus answered them, "Very truly, I tell you, you are looking for me, not because you saw signs, but because you ate your fill of the loaves. Do not work for the food that perishes, but for the food that endures for eternal life, which the Son of Man will give you. For it is on him that God the Father has set his seal." Then they said to him, "What must we do to perform the works of God?" Jesus answered them, "This is the work of God, that you believe in him whom he has sent." So, they said to him, "What sign are you going to give us then, so that we may see it and believe you? What work are you performing? Our ancestors ate the manna in the wilderness; as it is written, 'He gave them bread from heaven to eat.'" Then Jesus said to them, "Very truly, I tell you, it was not Moses who gave you the bread from heaven, but it is my Father who gives you the true bread from heaven. For the bread of God is that which comes down from heaven and gives life to the world." They said to him, "Sir, give us this bread always."

Jesus said to them, "I am the bread of life. Whoever comes to me will never be hungry, and whoever believes in me will never be thirsty."

P: The gospel of the Lord.

C: Praise to you, O Christ.

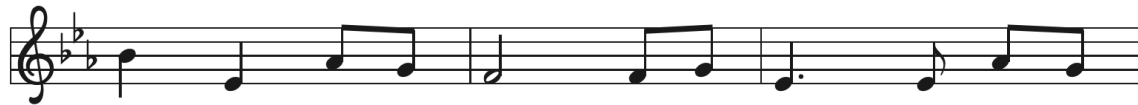
Sermon

Pastor Rachel Manke

Hymn of the Day ~ "Loaves Were Broken, Words Were Spoken"



1 Loaves were bro - ken, words were spo - ken by the
2 Loaves were bro - ken, words were spo - ken in a
3 Loaves are bro - ken, words are spo - ken, as in
4 By the loaves you break and give us, send us



Gal - i - le - an shore. Je - sus, Bread of life from
qui - et room one night. In the bread and wine you
faith we gath - er here. Je - sus speaks a - cross the
in your name to share bread for which the mil - lions

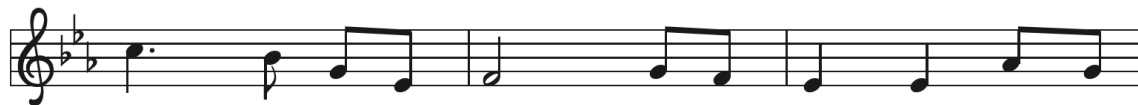


heav - en, was their food for - ev - er - more.
gave them, Christ, you came as Light from Light.
a - ges: "I am with you; do not fear!"
hun - ger, words that tell your love and care.

Refrain



By your bod - y bro - ken for us, by your



wine of life out - poured, Je - sus, feed a - gain your



peo - ple. Be our Host, our Life, our Lord.

Text: Herman G. Stuempfle Jr., 1923-2007

Music: JOYOUS LIGHT, Marty Haugen, b. 1950

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Apostles Creed

P: *Together, let us confess our faith:*

C: **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 to the dead.
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 Intercession

A: Rooted in Christ and sustained by the Spirit, we offer our prayers for the church, the world, and all of creation.

A brief silence.

A: You call your church to be the body of Christ. Awaken all the baptized to the gifts you provide for carrying out the work of ministry. Where the church is divided, knit us together and restore the unity of the faith. Hear us, O God.

C: **Your mercy is great.**

A: You command the clouds above and cause the wind to blow in the heavens. Watch over deserts and wilderness places. Regenerate rainforests, defend species at risk of extinction, and strengthen the work of conservation organizations. Hear us, O God.

C: **Your mercy is great.**

A: You summon leaders to respond to the needs of your people. Instill those who govern with patience when confronted with grievances and perseverance in seeking what promotes the well-being of the community. You hear your people when they call to you. Bring aid and healing to communities ravaged by Covid. Bring rain and cool weather to geographies battling forest fires. Bring peace where there is violence. Hear us, O God.

C: **Your mercy is great.**

A: You draw near to those who cry out for help. Feed those who are hungry, reassure those who are despairing, and accompany those who are imprisoned. Rain down the true bread from heaven that gives life to the world. As a community we pray for healing especially for Jean, Karen, Lois, Barbara, Dick, George, Robert, Tim, Kate, Cheryl, Susan, John, Randy, Dorothy, Robert, and Donna. Hear us, O God.

C: **Your mercy is great.**

A: You receive all who come seeking a sign of grace. Make this congregation a place of hospitality for those accustomed to rejection. To those who have felt excluded here or elsewhere, prepare us to welcome them in the name of Christ. Hear us, O God.

C: **Your mercy is great.**

Here other intercessions may be offered.

A: You provide food that endures for eternal life. Sustain us each day with the bread of life until we are gathered with all the saints and feast together at your heavenly banquet. Hear us, O God.

C: **Your mercy is great.**

A: We lift these and all our prayers to you, O God, confident in the promise of your saving love; through Jesus Christ our Lord.

C: **Amen.**

Peace

P: The peace of the Lord be with you always.

C: **And also with you.**

Anthem~ "Give Me Jesus"

MajaLisa Fritzhuspen, Mezzo-Soprano

In the mornin', when I rise, in the mornin', when I rise,
in the mornin', when I rise, give me Jesus.
Give me Jesus, give me Jesus, you may have all of this world, give me Jesus.

Dark midnight was my cry, dark midnight was my cry,
dark midnight was my cry, give me Jesus.
Give me Jesus, give me Jesus, you may have all of this world, give me Jesus.

Oh, when I comes to die, oh, when I comes to die,
oh, when I come to die, give me Jesus.
Give me Jesus, nobody but Jesus, you may have all of this world, give me Jesus.

Music: arr. Moses Hogan
Text: Traditional Spiritual

Presentation of Tithes and Offerings

During this time, we will not be passing the offering plates. We are grateful for all who are able to continue their support of St. John. There are three ways to share tithes and offerings:

- 1. Simply giving - You can arrange for a regular gift (weekly, monthly, quarterly) to be deducted from a bank account. Please contact Marcie Godby, our bookkeeper, to arrange for this (stjohn1802bookkeeper@gmail.com).*
- 2. You may go to St. John's website, <https://www.stjohnbluebell.org/>, and under "Quick Links" hit the "Online Giving and Donations" button.*
- 3. You may put your offering envelope (checks are preferred) in another stamped envelope and mail it to St. John: 1802 Skippack Pike, Blue Bell, PA 19422 (Attn: Marcie).*
- 4. You may make use of the offering plate located on a table near the church building.*

Take a moment and reflect on the gifts we have received – even in these difficult days.

Offertory Prayer

- P: Jesus, Bread of life,
you have set this table with your very self,
and called us to the feast of plenty.
Gather what has been sown among us,
and strengthen us in this meal.
Make us to be what we receive here,
your body for the life of the world.
- C: **Amen.**

The Meal

- P: The Lord be with you.
C: **And also with you.**
P: Lift up your hearts.
C: **We lift them to the Lord.**
P: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.
C: **It is right to give our thanks and praise.**
- P: It is indeed right, our duty and our joy,
that we should at all times and in all places
give thanks and praise to you, almighty and merciful God,
through our Savior Jesus Christ;
who on this day overcame death and the grave,
and by his glorious resurrection opened to us the way of everlasting life.
And so, with all the choirs of angels,
with the church on earth and the hosts of heaven,
we praise your name and join their unending hymn:



Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow-er and might,



heav'n and earth are full of your glo-ry. Ho-san - na in the high - est.



Bless - ed is he who comes in the name of the Lord. Ho -



san - na in the high - est, ho - san - na in the high - est.

P: In the night in which he was betrayed,
our Lord Jesus took bread, and gave thanks;
broke it, and gave it to his disciples, saying:
Take and eat; this is my body, given for you.
Do this for the remembrance of me.
Again, after supper, he took the cup, gave thanks,
and gave it for all to drink, saying:
This cup is the new covenant in my blood,
shed for you and for all people for the forgiveness of sin.
Do this for the remembrance of me.

P: Lord remember us in your kingdom and teach us to pray:

**C: 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.**

The meal is shared.

Communion Hymn~ “In the Singing, in the Silence”



1 In the sing - ing, in the si - lence, in the hands ex - pect - ant, o - pen,
2 In the ques - tion, in the an - swer, in the mo - ment of ac - cept - ance,



in the bless - ing, in the break - ing, in your pres - ence at this ta - ble,
in the heart's cry, in the heal - ing, in the cir - cle of your peo - ple,



Je - sus Christ, Je - sus Christ, be the wine of grace;



Je - sus Christ, Je - sus Christ, be the bread of peace.

Text: Shirley Erena Murray, b. 1931

Music: BREAD OF PEACE, Carlton R. Young, b. 1926

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Benediction

P: The blessing of God,
who provides for us, feeds us, and journeys with us,
✠ be upon you now and forever.

C: **Amen.**

Dismissal

P: Go in peace. You are the body of Christ.

C: **Thanks be to God.**

Postlude~ “God of Grace and Glory”

Timothy Shaw

Assisting with Worship

Pastor
Director of Music
Lectors
Cantor

Pastor Rachel Manke
Lawrence Baker
Dave Ochocki and Patti Whitcomb
MajaLisa Fritzhuspen

Announcements

Spirit Walkers- Pastor Rachel will be away next week, but the walkers can still meet up on Wednesday at 10 a.m. at Wentz Run Park. Join us!

Pastor's Vacation- Pastor Rachel will be away (visiting her family) from August 2-9. Pastor Karen Sease, from the synod staff, will be filling in as supply for worship next Sunday. Pastor Jay Mitchell, of Christ Ascension in Chestnut Hill, will be on call for emergency pastoral care. Pastor Jay is available at (267)549-9858.

ELCA World Hunger- Our simple "fish in your pockets" offering on Sunday raised \$167.22 which was enough for World Hunger to provide communities/families in developing areas with: a goat and chicks, piglet and manure, share in a fish farm and a few more chicks. Wonderful! Check out ELCA World Hunger's "Good Gifts" program to learn more. The link was in Wednesday's email.

God's Good Creation VBS Day is on August 14 from 10 a.m.- 4 p.m. Open for all kids PreK to 5th grade. Details are on our website with a link to registration! Can you lend a hand? We will need help with food/snack prep and serving, check-in/out, leading games, telling stories, setup, etc. If you think you might be able to help with any of these things, shoot Pastor an email. Older youth welcome to help!

Our next Food truck night is August 25 from 4-8 p.m. featuring Hedgehog Grille and Kona Ice.

Weekly Outdoor Services will continue Sundays at 9:30 a.m. These services will continue to be live streamed on YouTube as well as shared via email on Sunday evenings.

Save the Date for Pastor Rachel's Installation- Sunday, August 29 at 4 p.m. This will be the only worship service on this date.

