

Eleventh Sunday after Pentecost

August 8, 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

610-277-1086

Staff:

Pastor Rachel Manke

Lawrence Baker, Director of Music

Ann Brennan, Visual Arts Program Coordinator

Carrie Engel, Nursery School Director

Katie Myers, Webmaster

Barry Stock, Facilities Coordinator

Marcie Godby, Bookkeeper

Sue Klosterman, Church Office Assistant

pastorstjohnbluebell@gmail.com

lawrencebaker22@gmail.com

annlb609@gmail.com

carrie@stjohnsns.com

stjohnbluebell@gmail.com

stock825@comcast.net

stjohn1802bookkeeper@gmail.com

stjohn1802@gmail.com

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.

Copyright © 2021 Augsburg Fortress. All rights reserved. Reprinted by permission under Augsburg Fortress Liturgies Annual License #SAS003832.

One License authorized user, number A-725585

New Revised Standard Version Bible, copyright ©2021, Division of Christian Education of the National Council of the Churches of Christ in the United States of America. Used by permission. All rights reserved.

Order for Worship

Prelude ~ "So Art Thou to Me"

Kurt Klinger-Wilensky, Tenor

As the bridegroom to his chosen, as the king unto his realm,
as the keep unto the castle, as the pilot to the helm, so art thou, Lord, to me.

As the fountain in the garden, as the candle in the dark,
as the treasure in the coffer, as the manna in the ark, so art thou, Lord, to me.

As the music at the banquet, as the stamp unto the seal,
as the medicine to the fainting, as the wine cup at the meal,
So art thou, Lord, to me.

As the ruby in the setting, as the honey in the comb,
as the light within the lantern, as the father in the home.
As the sunshine in the heavens, as the image in the glass,
as the fruit unto the fig tree, as the dew upon the grass, so art thou, Lord, to me.

Text: John Tauler, tr. Emma Bevan

Music: K. Lee Scott

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 \dagger 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 ~ "As We Gather at Your Table"

1 As we gath-er at your ta-ble, as we lis-ten to your word,
2 Turn our wor-ship in-to wit-ness in the sac-ra-ment of life;
3 Gra-cious Spir-it, help us sum-mon oth-er guests to share that feast

help us know, O God, your pres-ence; let our hearts and minds be stirred.
send us forth to love and serve you, bring-ing peace where there is strife.
where tri-um-ph-ant Love will wel-come those who had been last and least.

Nour-ish us with sa-cred sto-ry till we claim it as our own;
Give us, Christ, your great com-pas-sion to for-give as you for-gave;
There no more will en-vy blind us nor will pride our peace de-stroy,

teach us through this ho - ly ban-quet how to make Love's vic - t'ry known.
 may we still be - hold your im - age in the world you died to save.
 as we join with saints and an - gels to re - peat the sound - ing joy.

Text: Carl P. Daw Jr., b. 1944
 Music: IN BABILONE, *Oude en Nieuwe Hollandse Boerenliedjes en Contradansen*, 1710; arr. Julius Röntgen, 1855–1932
 Text © 1989 Hope Publishing Company, Carol Stream, IL 60188. All rights reserved. Used by permission.

Prayer of the Day

- P:** Gracious God, your blessed Son came down from heaven to be the true bread that gives life to the world. Give us this bread always, that he may live in us and we in him, and that, strengthened by this food, we may live as his body in the world, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.
- C:** **Amen.**

Word

First Reading: 1 Kings 19:4-8

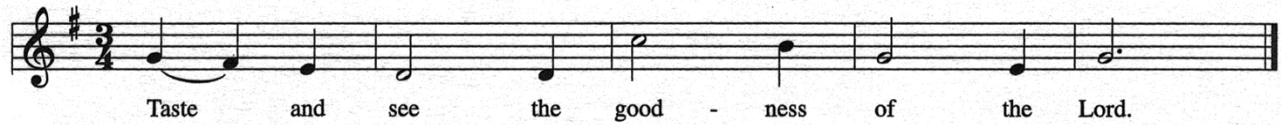
- A:** Elijah went a day's journey into the wilderness and came and sat down under a solitary broom tree. He asked that he might die: "It is enough; now, O LORD, take away my life, for I am no better than my ancestors. "Then he lay down under the broom tree and fell asleep. Suddenly an angel touched him and said to him, "Get up and eat." He looked, and there at his head was a cake baked on hot stones, and a jar of water. He ate and drank and lay down again. The angel of the LORD came a second time, touched him, and said, "Get up and eat, otherwise the journey will be too much for you." He got up and ate and drank; then he went in the strength of that food forty days and forty nights to Horeb the mount of God.

Word of God, word of life.

- C:** **Thanks be to God.**

Psalm 34

(Cantor, then ALL)



I will bless the Lord at all times, God's praise always on my lips;
in the Lord my soul shall make its boast. The humble shall hear and be glad. **Refrain**

Glorify the Lord with me. Together let us praise God's name.
I sought the Lord and was heard; from all my terrors set free. **Refrain**

Look towards God and be radiant; let your faces not be abashed.
When the poor cry out the Lord hears them and rescues them from all their distress. **Refrain**

The angel of the Lord is encamped around those who fear God, to rescue them.
Taste and see that the Lord is good. They are happy who seek refuge in God. **Refrain**

Second Reading: Ephesians 4:25–5:2

A: So then, putting away falsehood, let all of us speak the truth to our neighbors, for we are members of one another. Be angry but do not sin; do not let the sun go down on your anger, and do not make room for the devil. Thieves must give up stealing; rather let them labor and work honestly with their own hands, so as to have something to share with the needy. Let no evil talk come out of your mouths, but only what is useful for building up, as there is need, so that your words may give grace to those who hear. And do not grieve the Holy Spirit of God, with which you were marked with a seal for the day of redemption. Put away from you all bitterness and wrath and anger and wrangling and slander, together with all malice, and be kind to one another, tenderhearted, forgiving one another, as God in Christ has forgiven you. Therefore, be imitators of God, as beloved children, and live in love, as Christ loved us and gave himself up for us, a fragrant offering and sacrifice to God.

Word of God, word of life.

C: **Thanks be to God.**

Gospel: John 6:35, 41-51

P: The Holy Gospel according to John.

C: **Glory to you, O Lord.**

P: Jesus said to the crowd, "I am the bread of life. Whoever comes to me will never be hungry, and whoever believes in me will never be thirsty. Then the Jews began to complain about him because he said, "I am the bread that came down from heaven." They were saying, "Is not this Jesus, the son of Joseph, whose father and mother we know? How can he now say, 'I have come down from heaven'?" Jesus answered them, "Do not complain among yourselves. No one can come to me unless drawn by the Father who sent me; and I will raise that person up on the last day. It is written in the prophets, 'And they shall all be taught by God.' Everyone who has heard and learned from the Father comes to me. Not that anyone has seen the Father except the one who is from God; he has seen the Father. Very truly, I tell you, whoever believes has eternal life. I am the bread of life. Your ancestors ate the manna in the wilderness, and they died. This is the bread that comes down from heaven, so that one may eat of it and not die. I am the living bread that came down from heaven. Whoever eats of this bread will live forever; and the bread that I will give for the life of the world is my flesh."

P: The gospel of the Lord.

C: **Praise to you, O Christ.**

Sermon

Pastor Karen Sease

Hymn of the Day ~ "O Living Bread from Heaven"

1 O liv - ing Bread from heav - en, how well you feed your guest!
3 You gave me all I want - ed; this food can death de - stroy.
4 Oh, grant me then, well - strength - ened with heav'n - ly food, while here

The gifts that you have giv - en have filled my heart with rest.
And you have free - ly grant - ed the cup of end - less joy.
my course on earth is length - ened, to serve you, free from fear;

O won - drous food of bless - ing! O cup that heals our woes!
My Lord, I do not mer - it the fa - vor you have shown,
and bring me home to praise you where none can peace de - stroy,

My heart, this gift pos - sess - ing, in thank - ful song o'er - flows!
and all my soul and spir - it bow down be - fore your throne.
where I will ev - er raise you glad songs in end - less joy.

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: For the church of Christ in all its diverse forms. For mission developers, new mission starts, and all communities of faith exploring new models of ministry for the sake of the gospel. For congregations facing difficult decisions about their future. God, in your mercy,

C: hear our prayer.

A: For the health and well-being of creation. For shade trees that provide refuge from the hot summer sun. For lakes, rivers, and oceans contaminated by pollution and all who lack clean water. God, in your mercy,

C: hear our prayer.

A: For those called to positions of authority in our legal system, we pray. For judges, lawyers, law clerks, and court employees who ensure the fair administration of justice. For corrections officers and prison chaplains, that they would deal mercifully with those who are incarcerated. God, in your mercy,

C: hear our prayer.

A: For all who cry out to you in their affliction. For exiles, refugees, and others who face long and difficult journeys, uncertain about the future. For all who mourn the death of a loved one. For all who are sick especially Jean, Karen, Lois, Barbara, Dick, George, Robert, Tim, Kate, Cheryl, Susan, John, Randy, Dorothy, Robert, and Donna. God, in your mercy,

C: hear our prayer.

A: For the assembly gathered around your table, we pray. For those who help set up and prepare for the feast. For the farmers, wine and juice makers, and church supply companies who bring the elements to us. God, in your mercy,

C: hear our prayer.

A: For those who have been raised to eternal life, we give thanks. With all the saints we praise you for the bread of life that keeps us in your love forever. God, in your mercy,

C: hear our prayer.

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~ "Panis Angelicus"

Kurt Klinger-Wilensky, Tenor

Panis angelicus
fit panis hominum;
Dat panis caelicus
figuris terminum:
O res mirabilis!
Manducat Dominum
Pauper, Pauper,
servus et humilis.

May the Bread of Angels
Become bread for mankind;
The Bread of Heaven puts
All foreshadowings to an end;
Oh, thing miraculous!
The body of the Lord will nourish
the poor, the poor,
the servile, and the humble.

Text: Thomas Aquinas (1227-1274)

Music: Cesar Franck (1822-1890)

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~ "Bread of Life, Our Host and Meal"

1 Bread of life, our host and meal, Je - sus, feed us.
2 Bread now break and wine now pour, Je - sus, feed us.
3 Grant for - give - ness in the feast— Je - sus, feed us—
4 Thank you for this gift we share. Je - sus, feed us.

Christ, by faith, to see and feel, feed us with your love.
Make us one, our hope re - store; feed us with your love.
for the great - est and the least; feed us with your love.
Save God's chil - dren ev - 'ry - where; feed us with your love.

Text: Ray Makeever, b. 1943; Rusty Edwards, b. 1955
Music: JESUS, FEED US, Ray Makeever; arr. Rusty Edwards
Text and music © 1996 Hope Publishing Company, Carol Stream, IL 60188. All rights reserved. Used by permission.

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~ “At the Lamb’s High Feast”

Anne Krentz Organ

Assisting with Worship

Supply Pastor

Pastor Karen Sease

Director of Music

Lawrence Baker

Lector

MaryEllen Scheffey

Cantor

Kurt Klinger-Wilensky

Thank you, Pastor Karen Sease, for filling in as supply for today’s worship service!

Announcements

Spirit Walkers- will meet up on Wednesday at 10 a.m. at Wentz Run Park. Join us!

Pastor's Vacation- Pastor Rachel's vacation will continue through August 9. 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.

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 are 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.

