



Fourth Sunday after Pentecost

June 28, 2020

Welcome to St. John

We are very pleased that you have joined us for worship today. If you are visiting for the first time, we have a welcome gift for you. We also appreciate any comments or suggestions that you may have. Thank you for coming today!

Holy Communion is celebrated weekly, and we offer guidance for those visiting in the following pages underneath the heading “Communion Distribution.”

Our bulletin is all you will need for worship this morning. We have inserted helpful information in *italics* including when, if able, to stand and sit. Congregation responses are in **bold**.

Children are welcome at St. John. We have worship activity bags located at each sanctuary entrance. All children are encouraged to come forward during Children’s Time. Our parents of children are welcome to use the Family Room at any time during worship—it is located in the Nursery School wing (upstairs). The room is open for families to use as needed for their children. We also have a baby changing station in the restroom by the main office. Please ask an usher if you have any questions.

Following our services, we will have beverages, cookies and conversation in our Great Room. We hope that you will join us and introduce yourself to others.

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 250 years of mission and ministry, 1769-2019.



Evangelical Lutheran
Church in America

God's work. Our hands.

Order for Worship

Prelude ~ “Come, Let Us Make A Joyful Noise”

Duet- MajaLisa Fritzhuspen and Rob Laird

Come, let us make a joyful noise, unto Thee, O Lord, our God;
Sing a song of praise unto our God, with the angelic holy choir.

Come, let us serve the Lord with gladness; Come before his throne with singing,
Come with singing, wake the song of praise;
O come let us worship with the angelic, holy choir,

Music: G. F. Handel

Text: adap. from Psalms

Confession and Forgiveness

P: Blessed be the holy Trinity, † one God,
whose steadfast love is everlasting,
whose faithfulness endures from generation to generation.

C: **Amen.**

P: Trusting in the mercy of God, let us confess our sin.

Silence is kept for reflection.

P: Reconciling God,

C: **we confess that we do not trust your abundance,
and we deny your presence in our lives.
We place our hope in ourselves
and rely on our own efforts.
We fail to believe that you provide enough for all.
We abuse your good creation for our own benefit.
We fear difference and do not welcome others
as you have welcomed us.
We sin in thought, word, and deed.
By your grace, forgive us;
through your love, renew us;
and in your Spirit, lead us;
so that we may live and serve you in newness of life. Amen.**

P: Beloved of God,
by the radical abundance of divine mercy
we have peace with God through † Christ Jesus,
through whom we have obtained grace upon grace.
Our sins are forgiven.
Let us live now in hope.
For hope does not disappoint,
because God's love has been poured into our hearts
through the Holy Spirit.

C: **Amen.**

Gathering Hymn ~ Dearest Jesus, At Your Word

Dearest Jesus, at your word
we have come again to hear you;
let our thoughts and hearts be stirred
and in glowing faith be near you
as the promises here given
draw us wholly up to heaven.

All our knowledge, sense, and sight
lie in deepest darkness shrouded
till your Spirit breaks the night,
filling us with light unclouded.
All good thoughts and all good living
come but by your gracious giving.

Radiance of God's glory bright,
Light of light from God proceeding,
Jesus, send your blessed light;
help our hearing, speaking, heeding,
that our prayers and songs may please you,
as with grateful hearts we praise you.

Text: Tobias Clausnitzer, 1619-1684

Greeting

P: The grace and peace of our Lord Jesus Christ, be with you all.
C: **And also with you.**

Prayer of the Day

P: O God, you direct our lives by your grace, and your words of justice and mercy reshape the world. Mold us into a people who welcome your word and serve one another, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

C: Amen.

Children's Time

Word

Psalm 89

Refrain (*sung by Cantor, then by ALL*)

Psalm 89, adapt. D.H.

David Haas



I will sing for-ev-er to you my God, through-out all
time I will sing to you; through-out all
time I will sing to you.

1. I will sing of your love all my days, O God, your faithfulness is forever.
You are love everlasting and compassion stronger than the sky.
Refrain, sung by ALL
2. O God, how your people rejoice in you! You call us forth to share your light.
In your name we find our joy, and your justice will be our song.
Refrain, sung by ALL
3. All will sing and proclaim to me: "My God, my rock, my safety."
I will honor my promise; my love will always be with you.
Refrain, sung by ALL

Second Reading: Romans 6:12-23

Sin is an enslaving power which motivates us to live self-serving, disobedient lives. Sin's final payoff is death. We, however, have been set free from sin's slavery to live obediently under God's grace, whose end is the free gift of eternal life.

A: Do not let sin exercise dominion in your mortal bodies, to make you obey their passions. No longer present your members to sin as instruments of wickedness but present yourselves to God as those who have been brought from death to life, and present your members to God as instruments of righteousness. For sin will have no dominion over you, since you are not under law but under grace.

What then? Should we sin because we are not under law but under grace? By no means! Do you not know that if you present yourselves to anyone as obedient slaves, you are slaves of the one whom you obey, either of sin, which leads to death, or of obedience, which leads to righteousness? But thanks be to God that you, having once been slaves of sin, have become obedient from the heart to the form of teaching to which you were entrusted, and that you, having been set free from sin, have become slaves of righteousness. I am speaking in human terms because of your natural limitations. For just as you once presented your members as slaves to impurity and to greater and greater iniquity, so now present your members as slaves to righteousness for sanctification.

When you were slaves of sin, you were free in regard to righteousness. So, what advantage did you then get from the things of which you now are ashamed? The end of those things is death. But now that you have been freed from sin and enslaved to God, the advantage you get is sanctification. The end is eternal life. For the wages of sin is death, but the free gift of God is eternal life in Christ Jesus our Lord.

Word of God, word of life.

C: **Thanks be to God.**

Gospel: Matthew 10:40-42

P: The holy gospel according to St. Matthew.

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

P: Jesus said to the twelve: "Whoever welcomes you welcomes me, and whoever welcomes me welcomes the one who sent me. Whoever welcomes a prophet in the name of a prophet will receive a prophet's reward; and whoever welcomes a righteous person in the name of a righteous person will receive the reward of the righteous; and whoever gives even a cup of cold water to one of these little ones in the name of a disciple—truly I tell you, none of these will lose their reward."

The gospel of the Lord.

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

Homily

Silence for reflection follows the homily.

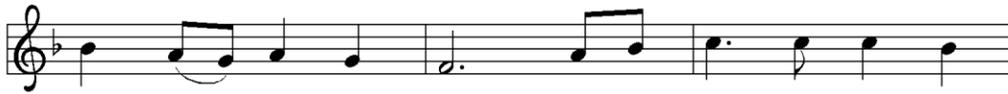
Hymn of the Day ~ "All Are Welcome"



1 Let us build a house where love can dwell and all can safe - ly
2 Let us build a house where proph-ets speak, and words are strong and
4 Let us build a house where hands will reach be - yond the wood and



live, a place where saints and chil - dren tell how
true, where all God's chil - dren dare to seek to
stone to heal and strength - en, serve and teach, and



hearts learn to for - give. Built of hopes and dreams and
dream God's reign a - new. Here the cross shall stand as
live the Word they've known. Here the out - cast and the



vi - sions, rock of faith and vault of grace; here the love of
wit - ness and as sym - bol of God's grace; here as one we
strang-er bear the im - age of God's face; let us bring an



Christ shall end di - vi - sions:
claim the faith of Je - sus: All are wel - come,
end to fear and dan - ger:



all are wel - come, all are wel - come in this place.

Apostles' Creed

P: Living together in trust and hope, we 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: Called into unity with one another and the whole creation, let us pray for our shared world.

A brief silence.

A: God of the Church, encourage our relationships with our siblings in Christ. Bless our conversations. Shape our shared future and give us hearts eager to join together in a festal shout of praise. Hear us, O God.
Your mercy is great.

A: God of abundance, you make your creation thrive and grow to provide all that we need. Bless all farmers and gardeners who have planted for the summer and fall harvests, bless all those who tend and pick, cultivate and reap the produce that provides for so many. Hear us, O God.
Your mercy is great.

A: God of mercy, your grace is poured out for all. Inspire authorities, judges, and politicians to act with compassion. Teach us to overcome fear with hope, meet hate with love, and welcome one another as we would welcome you. Hear us, O God.
Your mercy is great.

A: God of care, accompany all who are in deepest need. Comfort those who are sick, lonely, or abandoned. Strengthen those who are in prison or awaiting trial. Renew the spirits of all who call upon you. We pray especially for those on our Prayer List: Adina, Kathy, John, Eric Tom, Jack, Jon, Sharleen, Rob, Sue, Lauren, Bill, Dave, Gladys, Dylan, Randy, Dorothy, Judy, Jim, Gerry, Hadley, Robert, Abby, Laura, and Donna. Hear us, O God.
Your mercy is great.

A: God of community, we give thanks for this congregation. Give us passion to embrace your mission and the vision to recognize where you are leading us. Guide the work of our Call Committee. Hear us, O God.
Your mercy is great.

A: God of love, you gather in your embrace all who have died. Give comfort to families whose grief has been heightened in these times. Keep us steadfast in our faith and renew our trust in your promise. Hear us, O God.
Your mercy is great.

A: Receive these prayers, O God, and those too deep for words; through Jesus Christ our Lord.
Amen.

Peace

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

C: **And also with you.**

Anthem~ "Sound the Trumpet"

Duet- MajaLisa Fritzhusten and Rob Laird

Sound the trumpet! Sound the trumpet till around
You make the list'ning shores rebound.
One the sprightly hautboy, the sprightly hautboy play.
All the instruments of joy, that skillful numbers can employ,
To celebrate, to celebrate the glories of this day!

Music: Henry Purcell

Presentation of Tithes and Offerings

During our time away, 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).

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

Offertory Hymn ~ "Baptized and Set Free"



1 We are peo - ple cre - at - ed, cho - sen by God.

3 We are nour - ished by wa - ter, all liv - ing things,

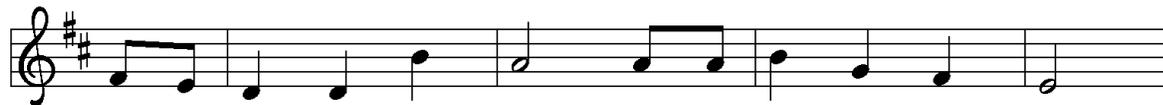
4 Now with praise and thanks - giv - ing, we join the song.



Then we're washed, ev - er gent - ly, in mer - cy and love.

and by life that the Spir - it a - bun - dant - ly brings.

All are wel - come! We gath - er to sing loud and strong.



Sin has pow - er no more. Je - sus o - pened the door

As we jour - ney toward home, may your pres - ence be known:

Not en - slaved, but set free! From now on, all will be



to a foun - tain bring - ing heal - ing, and whole - ness and more.

pre - cious riv - er, ev - er - flow - ing, now car - ry us home.

one in Je - sus, one in wa - ter, bap - tized and set free!

Text: Cathy Skogen-Soldner, b. 1956
 Music: BAPTIZED AND SET FREE, Cathy Skogen-Soldner
 Text and music © 1999 Augsburg Fortress.

Offertory Prayer

P: God of goodness and growth,
 all creation is yours,
 and your faithfulness is as firm as the heavens.
 Water and word, wine and bread:
 these are signs of your abundant grace.
 Nourish us through these gifts,
 that we might proclaim your steadfast love
 in our communities and in the world,
 through Jesus Christ, our strength and our song.

C: **Amen.**

Lord's Prayer

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.**

Benediction

P: God, the creator, † Jesus, the Christ,
and the Holy Spirit, the comforter,
bless you and keep you in eternal love.

C: **Amen.**

Sending Hymn ~ "To Be Your Presence"



1 To be your pres - ence is our mis - sion here, to show com -
2 To be your pres - ence is our mis - sion bold, to feed the
3 To be your pres - ence is our mis - sion blest, to speak for
4 We are your heart, O Christ, your hands and voice, to serve your



pas - sion's face and lis - t'ning ear, to be your heart of mer - cy
poor and shel - ter home - less cold, to be your hands of jus - tice,
all the bro - ken and op - pressed, to be your voice of hope, your
peo - ple is our call and choice, and in this mis - sion we, the



ev - er near,
right up - hold, al - le - lu - ia!
love ex - pressed,
church, re - joice,

Text: Delores Dufner, OSB, b. 1939

Music: ENGELBERG, Charles V. Stanford, 1852-1924

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Dismissal

P: Go in peace. Christ is with you.

C: **Thanks be to God.**

Postlude ~ “Finale on *Engelberg*”

Robert A. Hobby

Additional music links:

“Amazing Grace”

<https://youtu.be/CWWITAEHNkU>

“Funga Alafia”

<https://youtu.be/JV2amXPwYVs>

“The Church of Christ in Every Age”

<https://youtu.be/kHRI-wez1DY>

Assisting with Worship

Bridge Pastor

Director of Music

Lectors

Prayers of Intercession

Apostles’ Creed

Soloists

Pastor Stephen Godsall-Myers

Lawrence Baker

Davis Wenger

Diane Stein

Lisa Scalise

MajaLisa Fritzhuspen and Rob Laird

