

Twentieth Sunday after Pentecost

October 10, 2021

10:00 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

Ray Hopkins, Director of Youth and Family

Ann Brennan, Visual Arts Program Coordinator

Carrie Engel, Nursery School Director

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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 ~ "I Will Arise and Go to Jesus"

Lynette Maynard

Christine Hansen, Flute

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,
whose teaching is life,
whose presence is sure,
and whose love is endless.

C: **Amen.**

P: Let us confess our sins to the one who welcomes us with an open heart.

Silence is kept for reflection.

P: God our comforter:

C: **like lost sheep, we have gone astray.
We gaze upon abundance and see scarcity.
We turn our faces away from injustice and oppression.
We exploit the earth with our apathy and greed.
Free us from our sin, gracious God.
Listen when we call out to you for help.
Lead us by your love to love our neighbors as ourselves.
Amen.**

P: All have sinned and fall short of the glory of God.
By the gift of grace in Christ Jesus, God makes you righteous.
Therefore, receive now, with glad hearts, the forgiveness of all your sins. †

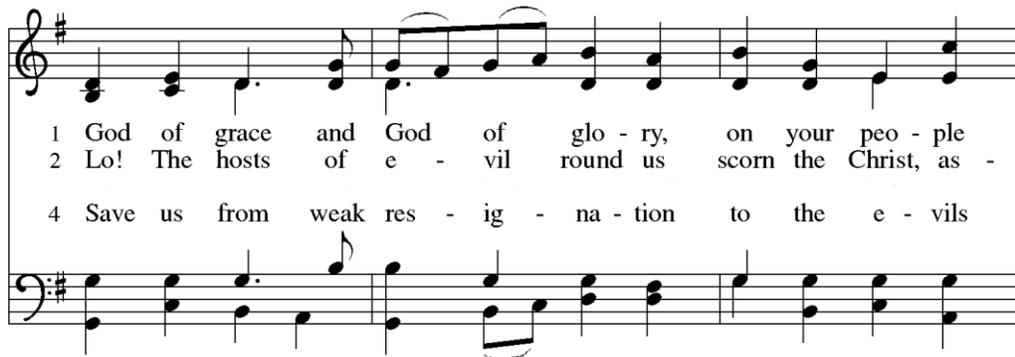
C: **Amen.**

Greeting

P: The grace 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.**

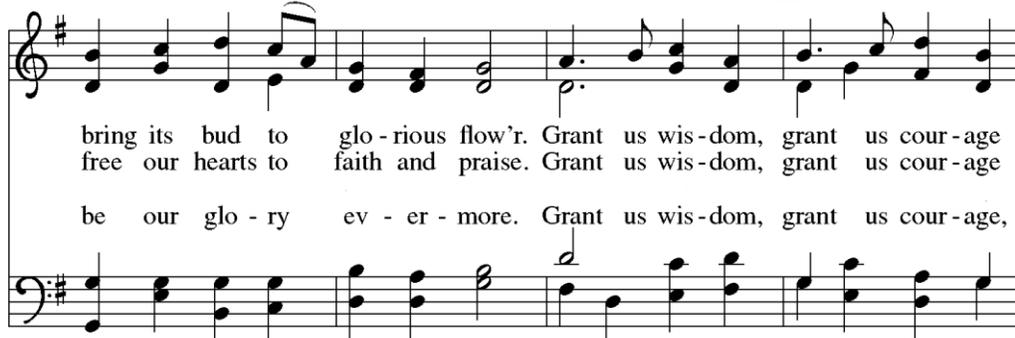
Hymn of Praise ~ "God of Grace"



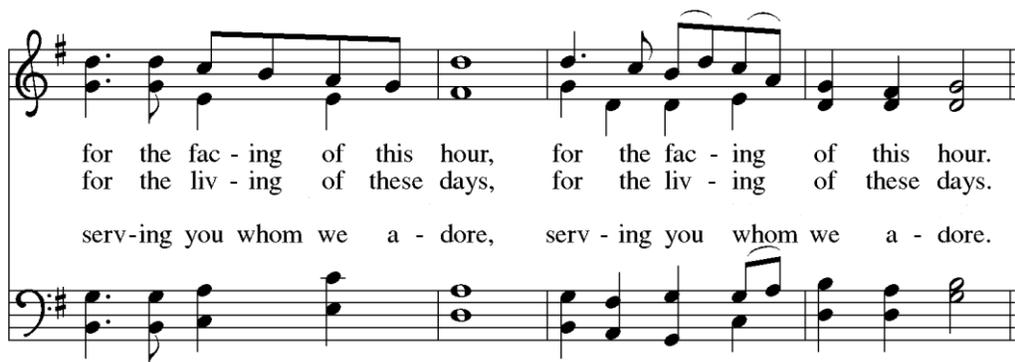
1 God of grace and God of glo - ry, on your peo - ple
2 Lo! The hosts of e - vil round us scorn the Christ, as -
4 Save us from weak res - ig - na - tion to the e - vils



pour your pow'r; crown your an - cient chur - ch's sto - ry;
sail his ways! From the fears that long have bound us
we de - plore; let the gift of your sal - va - tion



bring its bud to glo - rious flow'r. Grant us wis - dom, grant us cour - age
free our hearts to faith and praise. Grant us wis - dom, grant us cour - age
be our glo - ry ev - er - more. Grant us wis - dom, grant us cour - age,



for the fac - ing of this hour, for the fac - ing of this hour.
for the liv - ing of these days, for the liv - ing of these days.
serv - ing you whom we a - dore, serv - ing you whom we a - dore.

Text: Harry E. Fosdick, 1878-1969
Music: CWM RHONDDA, John Hughes, 1873-1932

Prayer of the Day

P: Almighty and ever-living God, increase in us your gift of faith, that, forsaking what lies behind and reaching out to what lies ahead, we may follow the way of your commandments and receive the crown of everlasting joy, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

C: **Amen.**

Children's Message

Word

First Reading: Amos 5:6-7, 10-15

A: Seek the LORD and live,
or he will break out against the house of Joseph like fire,
and it will devour Bethel, with no one to quench it.
Ah, you that turn justice to wormwood,
and bring righteousness to the ground!

They hate the one who reproves in the gate,
and they abhor the one who speaks the truth.
Therefore because you trample on the poor
and take from them levies of grain,
you have built houses of hewn stone,
but you shall not live in them;
you have planted pleasant vineyards,
but you shall not drink their wine.
For I know how many are your transgressions,
and how great are your sins—
you who afflict the righteous, who take a bribe,
and push aside the needy in the gate.
Therefore the prudent will keep silent in such a time;
for it is an evil time.

Seek good and not evil,
that you may live;
and so the LORD, the God of hosts, will be with you,
just as you have said.
Hate evil and love good,
and establish justice in the gate;
it may be that the LORD, the God of hosts,
will be gracious to the remnant of Joseph.

Word of God, word of life.

C: **Thanks be to God.**

Psalm 90

(Choir, then ALL)

Psalm 90 Stephen Pishner



Fill us, O Lord, with your love, and we will
sing for joy. Fill us, O Lord, with your
love, and we will sing for joy.

The English translation of the Psalm Response from the *Lectionary for Mass*
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Teach us to number our days, that we may gain wisdom of heart.
Turn back, O Lord! How long? Show pity to your servants. **Refrain.**

At dawn, fill us with your merciful love; we shall exult and rejoice all our days.
Give us joy for the days of our affliction, for the years when we looked upon evil. **Refrain.**

Let your deed be seen by your servants, and your glorious power by their children.
Let the favor of the Lord our God be upon us; give success to the work of our hands,
O give success to the work of our hands. **Refrain.**

Second Reading: Hebrews 4:12-16

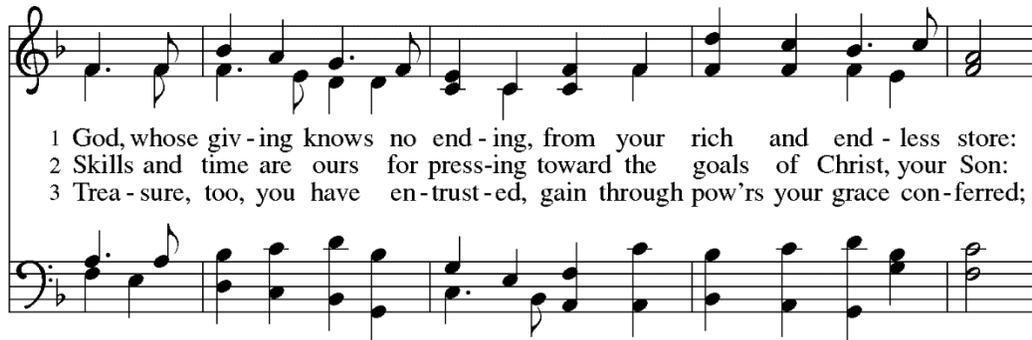
A: Indeed, the word of God is living and active, sharper than any two-edged sword, piercing until it divides soul from spirit, joints from marrow; it is able to judge the thoughts and intentions of the heart. And before him no creature is hidden, but all are naked and laid bare to the eyes of the one to whom we must render an account.

Since then, we have a great high priest who has passed through the heavens, Jesus, the Son of God, let us hold fast to our confession. For we do not have a high priest who is unable to sympathize with our weaknesses, but we have one who in every respect has been tested as we are, yet without sin. Let us therefore approach the throne of grace with boldness, so that we may receive mercy and find grace to help in time of need.

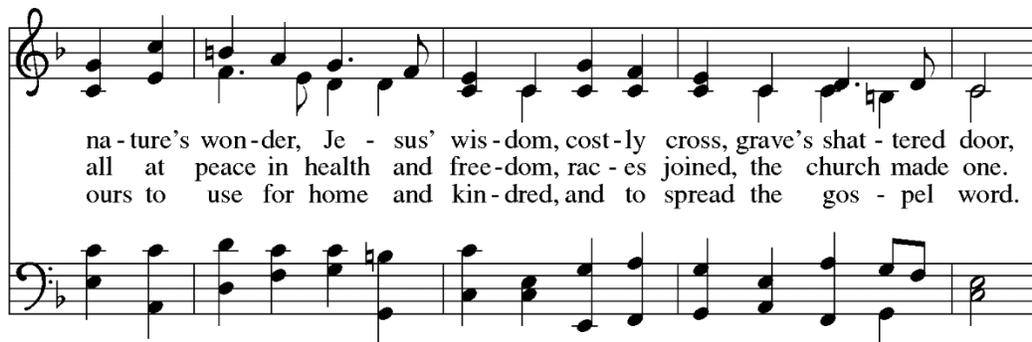
Word of God, word of life.

C: **Thanks be to God.**

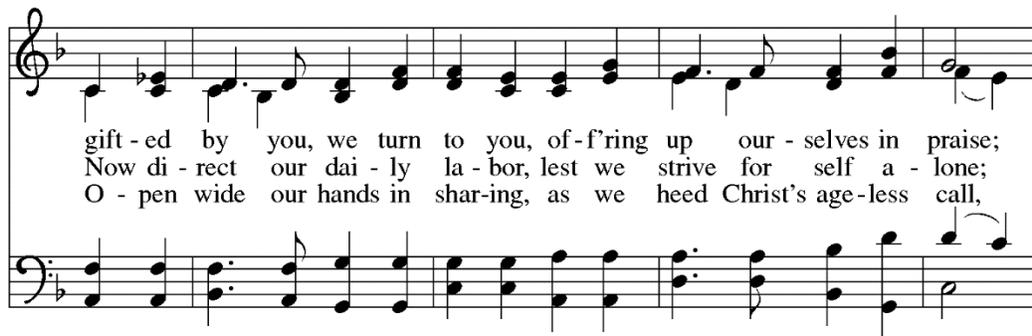
Hymn of the Day ~ "God Whose Giving Knows No Ending"



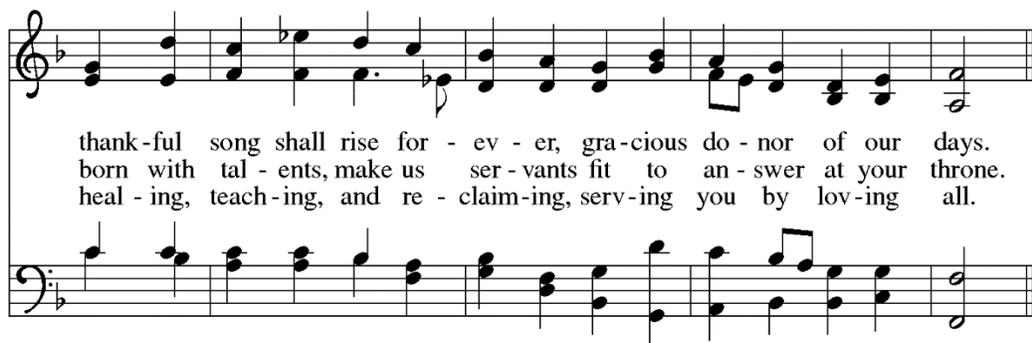
1 God, whose giv - ing knows no end - ing, from your rich and end - less store:
 2 Skills and time are ours for press - ing toward the goals of Christ, your Son:
 3 Trea - sure, too, you have en - trust - ed, gain through pow'rs your grace con - ferred;



na - ture's won - der, Je - sus' wis - dom, cost - ly cross, grave's shat - tered door,
 all at peace in health and free - dom, rac - es joined, the church made one.
 ours to use for home and kin - dred, and to spread the gos - pel word.



gift - ed by you, we turn to you, of - f'ring up our - selves in praise;
 Now di - rect our dai - ly la - bor, lest we strive for self a - lone;
 O - pen wide our hands in shar - ing, as we heed Christ's age - less call,



thank - ful song shall rise for - ev - er, gra - cious do - nor of our days.
 born with tal - ents, make us ser - vants fit to an - swer at your throne.
 heal - ing, teach - ing, and re - claim - ing, serv - ing you by lov - ing all.

Text: Robert L. Edwards, 1915–2006

Music: RUSTINGTON, C. Hubert H. Parry, 1848–1918

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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: Made children and heirs of God's promise, we pray for the church, the world, and all in need.

A brief silence.

A: Uniting God, you call forth different gifts in those who follow you. Encourage us to welcome the diverse benefits and blessings of the whole church in teaching, preaching, prophecy, healing, and more. Lord, in your mercy,

C: hear our prayer.

A: Nurturing God, you bring forth crops from the soil and bounty from the trees. Increase the produce of the land and bless all who toil in fields and orchards. Provide for good working conditions and keep them safe. Lord, in your mercy,

C: hear our prayer.

A: Empowering God, you offer compassion for those who are overlooked or forgotten. Open the hearts of local, national, and world leaders to show such compassion and love for their neighbors. Lord, in your mercy,

C: hear our prayer.

A: Sheltering God, in Jesus you travelled among us without a place to lay your head. Provide safe places to sleep and rest for those who have no place to live. Sustain ministries that offer food, clothing, and peace of mind such as the Lutheran Settlement House.
Lord, in your mercy,

C: **hear our prayer.**

A: Renewing God, you bring life out of death. Help us part with those things that are no longer beneficial to us and open our hearts to see where new life is budding in this congregation. We pray for all who are sick especially Amy, Melissa, Tom, Kimberly, Jim, Joshua, Carolyn, Jean, Lois, Dick, George, Robert, Tim, Kate, Cheryl, Susan, John, Randy, Dorothy, Robert, and Donna. Lord, in your mercy,

C: **hear our prayer.**

A: Healing God, we continue to pray for relief, medicine, compassion, and an end to this pandemic. Inspire scientists, comfort healthcare workers. Bring peace, bring healing, bring aid. Lord, in your mercy,

C: **hear our prayer.**

A: Eternal God, we thank you for the lives of those who have died. Make us confident in your promise of salvation and support us in our own journey of faith. Lord, in your mercy,

C: **hear our prayer.**

A: Receive these prayers, O God, and those in our hearts known only to you; through Jesus Christ our Lord.

C: **Amen.**

Peace

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

C: **And also with you.**

With what shall I come before the Lord,
and bow myself before God on high?
I can do justice, and can love kindness,
and walk humbly with God.
What does the Lord require?
To first seek the kingdom of God and its righteousness,
and all things, all these things will be given unto you.
What more does the Lord require?

Text: Micah 6:6-8, Matthew 6:33

Music: Michael John Trotta

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.*

For communion: *Prepackaged elements are available on tables nearby. Be sure to take one. The chalice shaped cups are wine and wafer. There are purple topped cups with red and also cups with white grape juice. There are some GF cups with red grape juice that are labeled on the tab. All are welcome.*

Offertory Prayer

- P: God of abundance,
you cause streams to break forth in the desert
and manna to rain from the heavens.
Accept the gifts you have first given us.
Unite them with the offering of our lives
to nourish the world you love so dearly;
through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.
- 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-en and earth are full of your glo - ry. Ho -
san - na in the high-est. Blessed is he who comes in the
name of the Lord. 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 together with the pastor leading with the words, "The body of Christ, given for you." then, "The blood of Christ, shed for you."

Communion Anthem~ “Take My Life, that I May Be”

Chancel Choir

Take my life, that I may be consecrated, Lord, to thee;
take my moments and my days; let them flow in ceaseless praise.
Take my hands and let them move at the impulse of thy love;
take my feet and let them be swift and beautiful for thee.

Take my voice and let me sing always, only, for my King;
take my lips and let them be filled with messages from thee.
Take my silver and my gold, not a mite would I withhold;
take my intellect, and use every power as thou shalt choose.

Take my will and make it thine; it shall be no longer mine.
Take my heart, it is thine own; it shall be thy royal throne.
Take my love; my Lord, I pour at thy feet its treasure store;
take myself, and I will be ever, only all for thee.

Text: Frances Havergal
Music: Robert A. Hobby

Benediction

P: People of God,
you are Christ’s body,
bringing new life to a suffering world.
The holy Trinity, † one God,
bless you now and forever.

C: **Amen.**

Dismissal

P: Go in peace. The living Word dwells in you.
C: **Thanks be to God.**

Postlude~ “Simple Gifts”

arr. John Purifoy

Assisting with Worship

Supply Pastor
Director of Music
Lector
Flutist

Rev. Dr. Jayakiran Sebastian
Lawrence Baker
Audrey Pyle
Christine Hansen

Announcements

We thank Rev. Dr. Jayakiran Sebastian for filling in for our service today. **Pastor Rachel** continues her vacation through **October 11**.

Spirit Walkers- Next meet-up will be Wednesday at **9:30 a.m.**, at Wentz Run Park.

Weekly Outdoor Services will continue Sundays at 10:00 a.m. through October. These services will continue to be live streamed on YouTube as well as shared via email on Sunday evenings.

When it Rains - A reminder that when our Praise Lot services are rained out, we do not meet in person. However, you can stream the service online on our Facebook or on YouTube later in the day and we'll see you again when the sun is out!

Save the Date Reminders:

- **Today** – *The Arts at St. John's* ~ Music for Trumpet and Piano 4p.m.
- **Oct. 23** - Evangelism will host a Beer Tasting event. See Joan Linton for tickets after worship.
- **Oct. 31** – Treats from the Trunk, following worship

Youth News...

NEXT EVENT - Sunday, Oct 17th

VIDEO GAME ROUND ROBIN EVENT, so get your racing gear on and come out to see how you match up to others in MARIO CART on the Nintendo Switch.

Upcoming Dates – Nov. 7th, Nov. 21st, Dec. 5, and Dec. 19th (The Advent Party)

This Week at St. John

Sunday, October 10

9:00 Sunday School for Children & Youth
10:00 Worship [PL]
4:00 *Arts at St. John's* ~ Music for Trumpet
and Piano

Monday, October 11

9:00 Nursery School
9:30 Quilting Group [YC, MPR]

Tuesday, October 12

9:00 Nursery School
10:30 Pastor's Bible Study on Zoom
10:30 Nursery School [GR]

Wednesday, October 13

9:00 Nursery School
9:30 Spirit Walkers [Wentz Park]
6:30 Visual Arts Class [FH]

Thursday, October 14

9:00 Nursery School
10:00 Visual Arts Class [FH]
6:30 Visual Arts Class [FH]
6:30 Handbell Choir [TR]
7:30 Chancel Choir [TR]

Friday, October 15

9:00 Nursery School
10:00 Visual Arts Class [FH]

Sunday, October 17

9:00 Sunday School for Children & Youth
10:00 Worship [PL]
5:00 Youth Group [FH]

Locations:

[FH] Fellowship Hall
[TR] Troster Room
[GR] Great Room
[YC] Youth Classroom
[PL] Praise Lot

