



Twenty-first Sunday after Pentecost

October 17, 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

Katie Myers, Webmaster

Barry Stock, Facilities Coordinator

Marcie Godby, Bookkeeper

Sue Klosterman, Church Office Assistant

pastorstjohnbluebell@gmail.com

lawrencebaker22@gmail.com

rayhopkins1802@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.

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Order for Worship

Prelude ~ "We Would Serve the Lord"

Chancel Choir

Choose this day whom you will serve; we would serve the Lord.
Through the water, wine and word, we have been restored.
O holy Savior, Jesus Christ, our brother,
All our praises you deserve, O Jesus Christ our Lord!

Whom will you serve? We will serve the Lord.
We are called to share God's word now and forevermore!
O holy Savior, Jesus Christ, our brother,
All our praises you deserve, O Jesus Christ our Lord!

Through the water, wine and word
our hearts are healed and souls are stirred.
Choose this day whom you will serve.
We would serve the Lord.

Text: Joshua 24
Music: Daniel Pederson

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 ~ “You Servants of God”

1 You ser - vants of God, your Mas - ter pro - claim, and pub - lish a -
 2 As - cend - ed on high, al - might - y to save, yet still he is
 3 Sal - va - tion to God who sits on the throne! Let all cry a -
 4 Then let us a - dore and give him his right, all glo - ry and

broad his won - der - ful name; the name, all - vic - to - rious, of
 nigh, his pres - ence we have. The great con - gre - ga - tion his
 loud and hon - or the Son. The prais - es of Je - sus the
 pow'r and wis - dom and might, all hon - or and bless - ing, with

Je - sus ex - tol; his king - dom is glo - rious and rules o - ver all!
 tri - umph shall sing, as - crib - ing sal - va - tion to Je - sus, our king!
 an - gels pro - claim, fall down on their fac - es, and wor - ship the Lamb.
 an - gels a - bove, and thanks nev - er ceas - ing, and in - fin - ite love!

Prayer of the Day

P: Sovereign God, you turn your greatness into goodness for all the peoples on earth. Shape us into willing servants of your kingdom, and make us desire always and only your will, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

C: Amen.

Children's Message

Word

First Reading: Isaiah 53:4-12

A: Surely he has borne our infirmities
and carried our diseases;
yet we accounted him stricken,
struck down by God, and afflicted.
But he was wounded for our transgressions,
crushed for our iniquities;
upon him was the punishment that made us whole,
and by his bruises we are healed.
All we like sheep have gone astray;
we have all turned to our own way,
and the LORD has laid on him
the iniquity of us all.

He was oppressed, and he was afflicted,
yet he did not open his mouth;
like a lamb that is led to the slaughter,
and like a sheep that before its shearers is silent,
so he did not open his mouth.
By a perversion of justice he was taken away.
Who could have imagined his future?
For he was cut off from the land of the living,
stricken for the transgression of my people.
They made his grave with the wicked
and his tomb with the rich,
although he had done no violence,
and there was no deceit in his mouth.

Yet it was the will of the LORD to crush him with pain.
When you make his life an offering for sin,
he shall see his offspring, and shall prolong his days;
through him the will of the LORD shall prosper.
Out of his anguish he shall see light;

he shall find satisfaction through his knowledge.

The righteous one, my servant, shall make many righteous,
and he shall bear their iniquities.

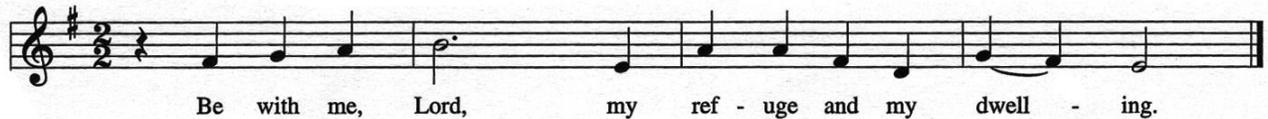
Therefore I will allot him a portion with the great,
and he shall divide the spoil with the strong;
because he poured out himself to death,
and was numbered with the transgressors;
yet he bore the sin of many,
and made intercession for the transgressors.

Word of God, word of life.

C: Thanks be to God.

Psalm 91

(Choir, then ALL)



Those who dwell in the shelter of the Most High and abide in the shade of the Almighty say to the Lord: “My refuge, my stronghold, my God in whom I trust!” **Refrain.**

Upon you no evil shall fall, no plague approach where you dwell.
For you God has commanded the angels, to keep you in all your ways. **Refrain.**

They shall bear you upon their hands lest you strike your foot against a stone.
On the lion and the viper you will tread and trample the young lion and the dragon. **Refrain.**

You set your love on me so I will save you, protect you for you know my name.
When you call I shall answer: “I am with you,”
I will save you in distress and give you glory. **Refrain.**

Second Reading: Hebrews 5:1-10

A: Every high priest chosen from among mortals is put in charge of things pertaining to God on their behalf, to offer gifts and sacrifices for sins. He is able to deal gently with the ignorant and wayward, since he himself is subject to weakness; and because of this he must offer sacrifice for his own sins as well as for those of the people. And one does not presume to take this honor, but takes it only when called by God, just as Aaron was.

So also Christ did not glorify himself in becoming a high priest, but was appointed by the one who said to him,

“You are my Son,
today I have begotten you”;

as he says also in another place,

“You are a priest forever,
according to the order of Melchizedek.”

In the days of his flesh, Jesus offered up prayers and supplications, with loud cries and tears, to the one who was able to save him from death, and he was heard because of his reverent submission. Although he was a Son, he learned obedience through what he suffered; and having been made perfect, he became the source of eternal salvation for all who obey him, having been designated by God a high priest according to the order of Melchizedek.

Word of God, word of life.

C: **Thanks be to God.**

Gospel Acclamation

Sung Once by All.

The musical notation is written on two staves in G major (one sharp). The first staff begins with a treble clef and a key signature of one sharp (F#). The melody consists of quarter notes: G4, A4, B4, C5, B4, A4, G4. The lyrics 'Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia,' are written below the notes. The second staff continues the melody with quarter notes: G4, A4, B4, C5, B4, A4, G4. The lyrics 'al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.' are written below the notes. The piece concludes with a double bar line.

Choir: The Son of Man came not to be served but to serve, and to give his life as a ransom
for many.

(Repeat Alleluia)

Gospel: Mark 10:35-45

P: The Holy Gospel according to Mark.

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

P: James and John, the sons of Zebedee, came forward to him and said to him, “Teacher, we want you to do for us whatever we ask of you.” And he said to them, “What is it you want me to do for you?” And they said to him, “Grant us to sit, one at your right hand and one at your left, in your glory.” But Jesus said to them, “You do not know what you are asking. Are you able to drink the cup that I drink or be baptized with the baptism that I am baptized with?” They replied, “We are able.” Then Jesus said to them, “The cup that I drink you will drink; and with the baptism with which I am baptized, you will be baptized; but to sit at my right hand or at my left is not mine to grant, but it is for those for whom it has been prepared.”

When the ten heard this, they began to be angry with James and John. So Jesus called them and said to them, “You know that among the Gentiles those whom they recognize as their rulers lord it over them, and their great ones are tyrants over them. But it is not so among you; but whoever wishes to become great among you must be your servant, and whoever wishes to be first among you must be slave of all. For the Son of Man came not to be served but to serve, and to give his life a ransom for many.”

P: The gospel of the Lord.

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

Sermon

Pastor Rachel Manke

Hymn of the Day ~ "Will You Let Me Be Your Servant"

1 Will you let me be your ser - vant, let me be as
 2 We are pil - grims on a jour - ney, we are trav - 'lers
 3 I will hold the Christ - light for you in the night - time
 4 I will weep when you are weep - ing; when you laugh I'll

Christ to you? Pray that I may have the grace to
 on the road; we are here to help each oth - er
 of your fear; I will hold my hand out to you,
 laugh with you. I will share your joy and sor - row

let you be my ser - vant, too.
 walk the mile and bear the load.
 speak the peace you long to hear.
 till we've seen this jour - ney through.

Text: Richard Gillard, b. 1953
 Music: THE SERVANT SONG, Richard Gillard; arr. Betty Pulkingham, b. 1928
 Text and music © 1977 Scripture In Song, c/o Integrity's Hosanna Music (ASCAP),
 c/o Integrity Media, Inc., 1000 Cody Road, Mobile, AL 36695.

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: Set free from sin and death and nourished by the word of truth, we join in prayer for all of God's creation.

A brief silence.

A: Holy One, for the gift of the church handed down through the ages and for all who carry on the servant ministry of Jesus, we praise you. Send your Holy Spirit upon all who are discerning calls to ministry in its many forms and equip them with your gifts. Continue to support the church's ministers in their challenging work in these times. Only you know the full extent of their service and only you call them to it. Hear us, O God.

C: **Your mercy is great.**

A: Creating One, for the lush and abundant habitat you provide for all your creatures, we praise you. Provide healing for the earth so that waterfowl, reptiles, wild horses, dolphins, and all living things flourish as you intend. Hear us, O God.

C: **Your mercy is great.**

A: Suffering One, for all who work toward peace and who lead nations with a servant's heart, we praise you. Bring justice for all who suffer violence, persecution, discrimination, hunger, poverty, and homelessness, and create places of refuge for all people. Hear us, O God.

C: **Your mercy is great.**

A: Merciful One, for all who do the work of healing in mind, body, and spirit, we praise you. Surround and comfort all who struggle with depression, anxiety, cancer, diabetes, dementia, or any illness, that all may be healed. We pray for all who are sick especially, Gerry, Amy, Melissa, Tom, Kimberly, Jim, Joshua, Carolyn, Jean, Lois, Dick, George, Robert, Tim, Kate, Cheryl, Susan, John, Randy, Dorothy, Robert, and Donna.
Hear us, O God.

C: **Your mercy is great.**

A: Sustaining One, for all who volunteer for the vitality of this congregation, we praise you. Strengthen and encourage ushers, office volunteers, counters, committee and group leaders, teachers, students, evangelists, singers, builders, nurturers, and all who serve with generous hearts. Hear us, O God.

C: **Your mercy is great.**

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. Hear us, O God.

C: **Your mercy is great.**

A: Risen One, we thank you for those who have shaped your church and shared your gospel. Through the witness of your saints, continue to inspire us with hope until we all are gathered at your eternal feast. Hear us, O God.

C: **Your mercy is great.**

A: Confident that you hear us, O God, we boldly place our prayers into your hands; through Jesus Christ, our truth and life.

C: **Amen.**

Peace

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

C: **And also with you.**

Lord, make us servants of your peace: where there is hate, may we sow love;
Where there is hurt, may we forgive; where there is strife, may we make one.

Where all is doubt, may we sow faith; where all is gloom, may we sow hope;
Where all is night, may we sow light; where all is tears, may we sow joy.

Jesus, our Lord, may we not seek to be consoled, but to console,
Nor look to understanding hearts, but look for hearts to understand.

May we not look for love's return, but seek to love unselfishly.
For in our giving we receive, and in forgiving are forgiv'n.

Dying, we live and are reborn through death's dark night to endless day.
Lord, make us servants of your peace, to wake at last in heaven's light.

Text: James Quinn (based on *Francis of Assisi*)

Music: K. Lee Scott

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."

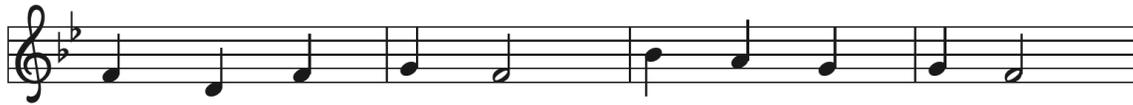
Communion Hymn~ "Come Now, You Blessed"



1 "Come now, you bless - ed, eat at my ta - ble,"
 2 When did we see you hun - gry or thirst - y?
 3 "When you gave bread to earth's hun - gry chil - dren,
 4 Christ, when we meet you out on life's road - ways,



said Je - sus Christ to the righ - teous a - bove.
 When were you home - less, a strang - er a - lone?
 when you gave wel - come to war's ref - u - gees,
 look - ing to us in the fac - es of need,



“When I was hun - gry, thirst - y, and home-less,
When did we see you sick or in pris - on?
when you re - mem - bered those most for - got - ten,
then may we know you, wel - come and show you



sick and in pris - on, you showed me your love.”
What have we done that you call us your own?
you cared for me in the small - est of these.”
love that is faith - ful in word and in deed.

Text: Ruth Duck, b. 1947

Music: MATTHEW 25, Emily R. Brink, b. 1940

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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~ “Rise, O Church, Like Christ Arisen”

Nancy M. Raabe

Assisting with Worship

Pastor
Director of Music
Lector

Pastor Rachel Manke
Lawrence Baker
Carol Weidler

Announcements

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.

Save the Date Reminders:

- **Oct. 23** - Evangelism will host a Beer Tasting event. See Joan Linton for tickets after worship.
- **Oct. 31** – Treats from the Trunk, following worship.
- **Nov. 7** – Worship returns to building at 8:15 and 10:30 a.m.

Youth News...

TONIGHT!

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 17

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

Monday, October 18

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

Tuesday, October 19

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

Wednesday, October 20

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

Thursday, October 21

9:00 Nursery School
10:00 Visual Arts Class [FH]
12:30 Yoga [FH]
6:30 Visual Arts Class [FH]
6:30 Handbell Choir [TR]
7:30 Chancel Choir [TR]

Friday, October 22

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

Saturday, October 23

3:00 Beer Tasting Event

Sunday, October 24

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

St. John's Prayer List

Gerry Stokker (*I*)
Amy Burke (*S*)
Melissa Good (*I*)
Tom Hack (*I*)
Kimberly Quinn (*D*)
Jim Hollinger (*I*)
Caroline (*I*)
Joshua Johnston (*I*)
Jean Williams (*I*)
Lois Teada (*S*)
Barbara Tornetta (*S*)

Dick Feron (*S*)
George McKinney (*I*)
Robert Engel, Sr. (*I*)
Tim Ryan (*I*)
Cheryl Ruse (*I*)
Susan Collins (*S*)
John Markiewicz (*S*)
Randy Titus (*I*)
Dorothy Christine (*I*)
Robert McCarty (*I*)
Donna West (*I*)

Legend: (I) illness; (S) surgery; (H) homebound; (D) death in the family.

