

Jesus turned, and seeing her said, "Take heart, your faith has made you well." ~ Matthew 9:22

St. John Evangelical Lutheran Church ^{2nd} Sunday after Pentecost – June 11, 2023 420 Beaver St., PO Box 411 Mars, PA 16046-0411 www.stjohnchurchmars.org Phone: 724-625-1830 email: office@stjohnchurchmars.org Rev. Katie McNeal, Presiding Minister Maizy Fisher, Director of Music Ministries We are delighted to have you worship with us this morning! Know that you are welcome here just as you are.

If you are looking for a church to call home, why not consider making this one your own? If this is your first time visiting us, please fill out the visitor information card stapled to your bulletin.

*Everything you need to follow worship can be found in this bulletin. As you are comfortable, please rise when there is an * and join in the congregational responses, noted in bold.*

All songs are marked with numbers. The red book in the pew has all the songs. Look for the large number in the upper corner of the page to find the correct song.

During the time of **Peace**, you are invited to turn to those around you and offer a word of peace. We suggest a handshake and saying, "Peace be with you." You are also welcomed to offer another gesture of peace (wave, fist-bump, smile, etc.). Hand sanitizer is available in each pew. At the time of **Offering**, you are invited to share a gift as you are comfortable. You may also place any updates to our ongoing prayer list using the yellow cards in the pews and placing them in the offering plates.

At the time of **Holy Communion**, all are welcome to come forward via the center aisle, receive the elements, and return via the side aisles. We begin at the front of the right side, commune all on the right side, then we will invite the left side forward. When you come forward, you may receive the bread from the pastor, then pre-filled cups with wine or grape juice from the assisting minister. You may consume the elements after receiving them then place the empty cup in the tray held by the acolyte. Those who do not receive Holy Communion are welcome to come forward for a blessing.

If you need a restroom, restrooms are located on the bottom floor at the far side of the building from the elevator. Restrooms may be accessed either via the stairs in the rear of the sanctuary, the stairs by the Greeting Area, or the elevator. As you prepare for worship, you are invited to fill out the blue prayer request forms located in each pew. The cards will be collected during our hymn of the day, and prayers will be offered during the prayers of intercession.

PRELUDE and ANNOUNCEMENTS

*GATHERING SONG The God of Abraham Praise (ELW 831) (VS 1-4)



***GREETING**

The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all. **And also with you.**

***CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS**

Blessed be the holy Trinity, \pm one God, who greets us in this and every season, whose word never fails, whose promise is sure. **Amen.**

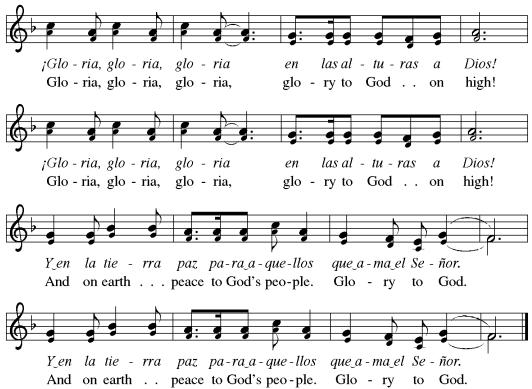
Let us confess our sin in the presence of God and of our neighbors.

Merciful God, we confess that we have sinned. We have hurt our community. We have squandered your blessings. We have hoarded your bounty. In the name of Jesus, forgive us and grant us your mercy. Silence is kept for reflection.

Righteous God, we confess that we have sinned. We have failed to be honest. We have lacked the courage to speak. We have spoken falsely. In the name of Jesus, forgive us and grant us your mercy. Silence is kept for reflection.

God is a cup of cold water when we thirst. God offers boundless grace when we fail. In God's goodness, we are free to claim the gift of God's mercy: we are freed and forgiven in the name of + Jesus Christ. **Amen.**

***GLORY TO GOD**



***PRAYER OF THE DAY**

Let us pray.

O God, you are the source of life and the ground of our being. By the power of your Spirit bring healing to this wounded world, and raise us to the new life of your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

Amen.

FIRST READING: Hosea 5:15--6:6

A reading from Hosea.

¹⁵I will return again to my place until they acknowledge their guilt and seek my face. In their distress they will beg my favor:

^{6:1}"Come, let us return to the LORD; for it is he who has torn, and he will heal us; he has struck down, and he will bind us up. ²After two days he will revive us; on the third day he will raise us up, that we may live before him. ³Let us know, let us press on to know the LORD; his appearing is as sure as the dawn; he will come to us like the showers. like the spring rains that water the earth." ⁴What shall I do with you, O Ephraim? What shall I do with you, O Judah? Your love is like a morning cloud, like the dew that goes away early. ⁵Therefore I have hewn them by the prophets, I have killed them by the words of my mouth, and my judgment goes forth as the light. ⁶For I desire steadfast love and not sacrifice, the knowledge of God rather than burnt offerings.

The word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

PSALM 50:7-15

⁷"Listen, my people, and I will speak: Israel, I will bear witness against you; for I am God, your God.

⁸I do not accuse you because of your sacrifices; your burnt offerings are always before me.

⁹I will not accept a calf from your stalls, nor goats from your pens;

¹⁰for all the wild animals of the forest are mine, the cattle on a thousand hills.

¹¹I know every bird of the mountains, and the creatures of the fields are mine.

¹²If I were hungry, I would not tell you,

for the whole world is mine and all that is in it.

¹³Do you think I eat the flesh of bulls, or drink the blood of goats?

¹⁴Offer to God a sacrifice of thanksgiving and make good your vows to the Most High.

¹⁵Call upon me in the day of trouble;

I will deliver you, and you shall honor me.

SECOND READING: Romans 4:13-25

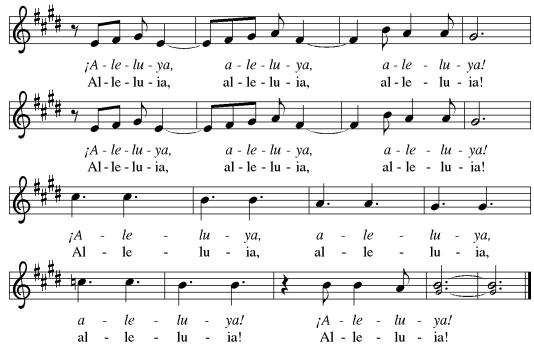
A reading from Romans.

¹³The promise that he would inherit the world did not come to Abraham or to his descendants through the law but through the righteousness of faith. ¹⁴If it is the adherents of the law who are to be the heirs, faith is null and the promise is void. ¹⁵For the law brings wrath; but where there is no law, neither is there violation.

¹⁶For this reason it depends on faith, in order that the promise may rest on grace and be guaranteed to all his descendants, not only to the adherents of the law but also to those who share the faith of Abraham (for he is the father of all of us, ¹⁷as it is written, "I have made you the father of many nations")—in the presence of the God in whom he believed, who gives life to the dead and calls into existence the things that do not exist. ¹⁸Hoping against hope, he believed that he would become "the father of many nations," according to what was said, "So numerous shall your descendants be." ¹⁹He did not weaken in faith when he considered his own body, which was already as good as dead (for he was about a hundred years old), or when he considered the barrenness of Sarah's womb. ²⁰No distrust made him waver concerning the promise of God, but he grew strong in his faith as he gave glory to God, ²¹being fully convinced that God was able to do what he had promised. ²²Therefore his faith "was reckoned to him as righteousness." ²³Now the words, "it was reckoned to him," were written not for his sake alone, ²⁴but for ours also. It will be reckoned to us who believe in him who raised Jesus our Lord from the dead, ²⁵who was handed over to death for our trespasses and was raised for our justification.

The word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God**

***GOSPEL ACCLAMATION**



*GOSPEL READING: Matthew 9:9-13, 18-26 The holy gospel according to Matthew. Glory to you, O Lord.

⁹As Jesus was walking along, he saw a man called Matthew sitting at the tax booth; and he said to him, "Follow me." And he got up and followed him.

¹⁰And as he sat at dinner in the house, many tax collectors and sinners came and were sitting with him and his disciples. ¹¹When the Pharisees saw this, they said to his disciples, "Why does your teacher eat with tax collectors and sinners?" ¹²But when he heard this, he said, "Those who are well have no need of a physician, but those who are sick. ¹³Go and learn what this means, 'I desire mercy, not sacrifice.' For I have come to call not the righteous but sinners."

¹⁸While he was saying these things to them, suddenly a leader of the synagogue came in and knelt before him, saying, "My daughter has just died; but come and lay your hand on her, and she will live." ¹⁹And Jesus got up and followed him, with his disciples. ²⁰Then suddenly a woman who had been suffering from hemorrhages for twelve years came up behind him and touched the fringe of his cloak, ²¹for she said to herself, "If I only touch his cloak, I will be made well." ²²Jesus turned, and seeing her he said, "Take heart, daughter; your faith has made you well." And instantly the woman was made well. ²³When Jesus came to the leader's house and saw the flute players and the crowd making a commotion, ²⁴he said, "Go away; for the girl is not dead but sleeping." And they laughed at him. ²⁵But when the crowd had been put outside, he went in and took her by the hand, and the girl got up. ²⁶And the report of this spread throughout that district.

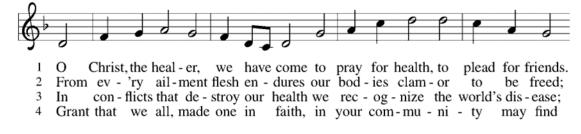
The gospel of the Lord. **Praise to you, O Christ**

CHILDREN'S SERMON

SERMON

*HYMN OF THE DAY O Christ, the Healer, We Have Come (ELW 610)

(Blue prayer cards are collected)





How can we fail to be re-stored when reached by love that nev - er ends? yet in our hearts we would con-fess that whole-ness is our deep-est need. our com-mon life de-clares our ills. Is there no cure, O Christ, for these? the whole-ness that, en-rich - ing us, shall reach the whole of hu - man-kind.

*APOSTLES' CREED

Let us confess our faith in the words of the Apostles' Creed

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**

Trusting in God's abundant mercy, let us offer our prayers for a world in need. *A brief silence for reflection*

We pray, O God, for the church. Unite us with any on the margins, that the whole world recognizes that your mercy is greater than our human capacity to restrict it. God, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

We pray, O God, for creation. Tend forests and fields and safeguard all cattle, birds, and wild animals. Preserve lakes, rivers, and oceans and send rains to water the earth. Revive lands recovering from natural disasters. God, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

We pray, O God, for the nations. Awaken in our leaders compassion for people who have too often felt forgotten or neglected, and inspire policy solutions that promote equity and inclusion. God, in your mercy,

hear our prayer.

We pray, O God, for all who are in need. Accompany anyone enduring chronic illness, any who suffer in secret, and those grieving a loved one's death. Send healing for all who plead for relief from sickness or pain especially Jeff, Bob, Geneva, Cherry, Winnie, Henry, Harry, Roy, Ellen, Ruth, Sally, Katie, Debi, those on our prayer list, and all whom we remember aloud or in our hearts. God, in your mercy,

hear our prayer.

We pray, O God, for the eradication of racial hatred. On this week when we commemorate the Emanuel Nine, we implore you to cast out the demons of white supremacy that make us believe lies about ourselves and our neighbors. God, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

We give thanks, O God, for Barnabas and all the saints. Renew our faith that you can do what you have promised and raise us, with all our beloved dead, to new life. God, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

We pray, O God, for your everlasting presence, trusting that you hear our prayers, spoken and unspoken. We lift the prayers on the hearts and minds of this congregation this day (*blue prayer cards are read*). Receive our prayers and answer us, O God, in the name of Jesus Christ. **Amen.**

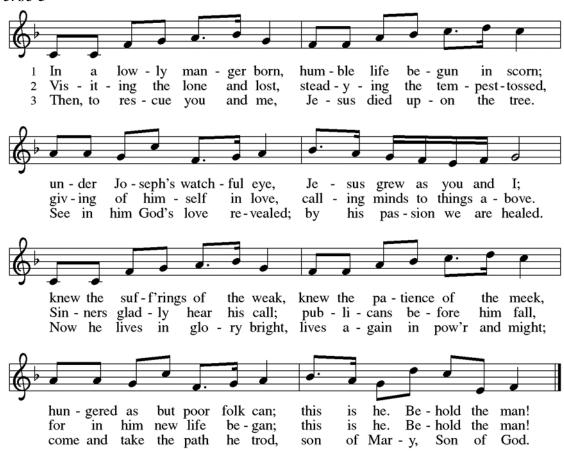
*PEACE

The peace of Christ be with you always. And also with you. Let us share Christ's peace with one another.

OFFERING

OFFERTORY HYMN In a Lowly Manger Born (ELW 718)

*Rise on verse 3



***OFFERING PRAYER**

God of field and forest, sea and sky, you are the giver of all good things. Sustain us with these gifts of your creation, and multiply your graciousness in us, that the world may be fed with your love, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. **Amen.**

*GREAT THANKSGIVING

The Lord be with you. **And also with you.** Lift up your hearts. **We lift them to the Lord.** Let us give thanks to the Lord our God. **It is right to give our thanks and praise.** 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, the church on earth and the hosts of heaven, we praise your name and join their unending hymn:

> Θ San to, san - to es elSe ñor, to, san _ -Ho - ly, ho ly, ho - ly Lord God, -• Se Dios del u - ni - ver san - to es elñor. so: God of might and pow ho - ly is the Lord. er; ο Se san - to es el ñor, San - to, san - to, san to, -Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord . . . God, ho ly, **•** Se Dios del u - ni - ver - so; san - to es el ñor. God of might and pow - er; ho - ly the Lord. is el la Ho - san - na en cie lo, ho san - na en -the high -Ho-san - na in ho san - na est, here on tie rra. Ben di to el que vie ne_en el _ earth. . . . Blest is he who comes in the . nom-bre del Se _ ñor. Ho san - na en elname . . . of the Lord. Ho san - na in the Óø lo, la rra. Ben cie ho san - na en tie --_ high est, ho san - na here on earth. 0 di - to elvie - ne en el nom - bre del Se - ñor. que Blest is the Lord. he who comes in name . . . of the

Holy, mighty, and merciful Lord, Heaven and earth are full of your glory. In great love you sent to us Jesus, your Son, who reached out to heal the sick and suffering, who preached good news to the poor, and who, on the cross, opened his arms to all.

In the night in which he was betrayed, to explain God's love, to show it and share it, 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.

Remembering therefore, his death, resurrection, and ascension, we await his coming in glory.

Pour out upon us the Spirit of your love, O Lord, and unite the wills of all who share this heavenly food, the body and blood of Jesus Christ, our Lord; to whom, with you and the Holy Spirit, be all honor and glory, now and forever. **Amen**

Lord, remember us in your kingdom and teach us to pray, 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

***INVITATION TO COMMUNION**

Taste and see that the Lord is good. Come, for all is now ready.

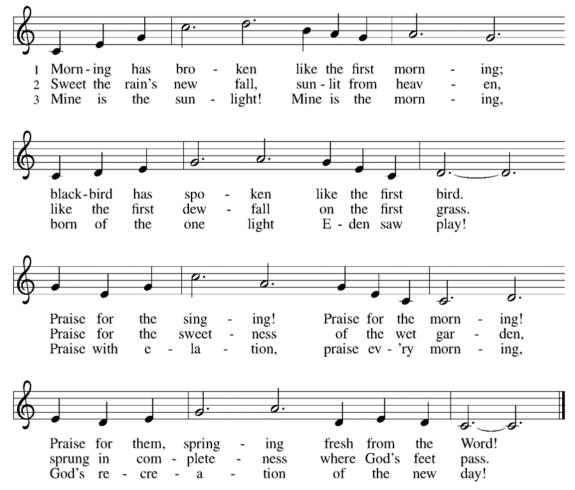
DISTRIBUTION OF COMMUNION

Through this meal, we know forgiveness, life, and salvation as the blessings of God's sacramental grace. In response to Jesus' invitation, all are welcome to come forward and experience the real presence of Christ in the bread and wine of communion. Those who do not receive the elements of bread and wine are invited to come forward for a blessing. Grape juice and gluten free wafers are available.

COMMUNION SONG Lamb of God



COMMUNION HYMN Morning Has Broken (ELW 556)



***POST-COMMUNION BLESSING**

The body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen you and preserve you in grace. Amen

***POST-COMMUNION PRAYER**

We thank you, generous God, for the refreshment we have received at your banquet table. Send us now to spread your generosity into all the world, through the one who is our dearest treasure, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. **Amen.**

***BLESSING**

The God who calls across the cosmos and speaks in the smallest seed bless, keep, and sustain you + now and to the end of the age. **Amen.**

*SENDING SONG There is a Balm in Gilead (ELW 614)



*DISMISSAL

[Jesus said,] "Go into all the world and proclaim the good news to the whole creation."

Mark 16:15

Go in peace. Share the harvest. **Thanks be to God.**

POSTLUDE

The flowers on the altar today are from Jamie & Erin Weaver in celebration of their wedding anniversary.

Assisting in worship today:

Assisting Minister: Madison Cardinal Acolyte: Emma Niklewicz Usher: John Tully Greeters: Offering: Luca Knauff & Eva Knauff

Attendance Last Week: 48 + 5 zoom

Notes for the day's texts:

The weeks of summer coincide with the beginning of the Pentecost season. Summer brings sunny warmth, growing crops, and the promise of harvest: images of the Holy Spirit's presence and activity in our lives, the church, and the world. Hosea speaks of God's presence as the dawn, as a gentle shower, as light. In our life together as a community of faith, what needs light, warmth, and watering to grow and flourish? How might we be attentive to others' needs to receive this nourishment through God's words of life and holy supper?

Today's Music

The God of Abraham Praise. Text: Thomas Olivers, 1725-1799, alt., based on the Yigdal, c. 14th cent.,

Music: Jewish melody; arr. Meyer Lyon, 1751-1797. Public Domain.

O Christ, The Healer, We Have Come. Text: Fred Pratt Green, 1903-2000, Music: W. Walker, Southern Harmony, 1835. Hope Publishing Company (ASCAP) / Public Domain.

In a Lowly Manger Born. Text: Ko Yuki, 1896-1985; tr. composite, Music: Seigi Abe, 1891-1974. Augsburg Fortress / Christian Conference of Asia.

Morning Has Broken. Text: Eleanor Farjeon, 1881–1965, Music: Gaelic tune; arr. hymnal version. David Higham Associates/ Public Domain / Augsburg Fortress.

There Is a Balm in Gilead. Text: African American spiritual, Music: African American spiritual. Public Domain.

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Next Week's Readings

Exodus 19:2-8a The covenant with Israel at Sinai Psalm 100 We are God's people and the sheep of God's pasture Romans 5:1-8 While we were sinners, Christ died for us Matthew 9:35-10:8 The sending of the Twelve