

Holy Communion



**The Second Sunday of Easter
April 7, 2024**

**St. John's Evangelical Lutheran Church
Bath, PA**

**Flowers Presented In Memory of Mother,
Florence Seibel by June .**

**Bulletins Presented in Memory of
Departed Loved Ones by Phyllis & Joe A.**

Welcome and Announcements

*Confession and Forgiveness

The assembly stands. The sign of the cross may be made by all in remembrance of their Baptism.

*P: In the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

*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: If we say we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us. But if we confess our sins, God who is faithful and just will forgive our sins and cleanse us from all unrighteousness.

Silence for reflection and self-examination.

*P: Most merciful God,

*C: **we confess that we are in bondage 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**

The minister addresses the congregation.

*P: Almighty God, in his mercy, has given his Son to die for us and, for his sake, 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 Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

*C: **Amen**

***Hymn WOV #649** *“I Want to Walk as a Child of the Light”*

(8am vs 1-2)

***The 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.**

***Prayer of the Day**

*P: Almighty God,

***C: with joy we celebrate the day of our Lord’s resurrection. By the grace of Christ among us, enable us to show the power of the resurrection in all that we say and do, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.**

First Reading: Acts 4:32-35

³²Now the whole group of those who believed were of one heart and soul, and no one claimed private ownership of any possessions, but everything they owned was held in common.

³³With great power the apostles gave their testimony to the resurrection of the Lord Jesus, and great grace was upon them all.

³⁴There was not a needy person among them, for as many as owned lands or houses sold them and brought the proceeds of what was sold. ³⁵They laid it at the apostles’ feet, and it was distributed

Second Reading: 1 John 1:1--2:2

¹We declare to you what was from the beginning, what we have heard, what we have seen with our eyes, what we have looked at and touched with our hands, concerning the word of life—²this life was revealed, and we have seen it and testify to it, and declare to you the eternal life that was with the Father and was revealed to us—³we declare to you what we have seen and heard so that you also may have fellowship with us; and truly our fellowship is with the Father and with his Son Jesus Christ. ⁴We are writing these things so that our joy may be complete. ⁵This is the message we have heard from him and proclaim to you, that God is light and →

in him there is no darkness at all. ⁶If we say that we have fellowship with him while we are walking in darkness, we lie and do not do what is true; ⁷but if we walk in the light as he himself is in the light, we have fellowship with one another, and the blood of Jesus his Son cleanses us from all sin. ⁸If we say that we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us. ⁹If we confess our sins, he who is faithful and just will forgive us our sins and cleanse us from all unrighteousness. ¹⁰If we say that we have not sinned, we make him a liar, and his word is not in us. ^{2:1}My little children, I am writing these things to you so that you may not sin. But if anyone does sin, we have an advocate with the Father, Jesus Christ the righteous; ²and he is the atoning sacrifice for our sins, and not for ours only but also for the sins of the whole world.

***Gospel Verse** (sung)

p. 62

***“Alleluia. Lord, to whom shall we go?
You have the words of eternal life. Alleluia. Alleluia”***

***P:** The Holy Gospel according to St. John, the twentieth chapter.

***C:** (sung) **Glory to you, O Lord.**

***Gospel: John 20:19-31**

¹⁹When it was evening on that day, the first day of the week, and the doors of the house where the disciples had met were locked for fear of the Jews, Jesus came and stood among them and said, “Peace be with you.” ²⁰After he said this, he showed them his hands and his side. Then the disciples rejoiced when they saw the Lord. ²¹Jesus said to them again, “Peace be with you. As the Father has sent me, so I send you.” ²²When he had said this, he breathed on them and said to them, “Receive the Holy Spirit. ²³If you forgive the sins of any, they are forgiven them; if you retain the sins of any, they are retained.” ²⁴But Thomas (who was called the Twin), one of the twelve, was not with them when Jesus came. ²⁵So the other disciples told him, “We have seen the Lord.” But he said to them, “Unless I see the mark of the nails in his hands, and put my finger in the mark of the nails and my hand in his side, I will not believe.” ²⁶A week later his disciples were again in the →

house, and Thomas was with them. Although the doors were shut, Jesus came and stood among them and said, "Peace be with you."²⁷ Then he said to Thomas, "Put your finger here and see my hands. Reach out your hand and put it in my side. Do not doubt but believe."²⁸ Thomas answered him, "My Lord and my God!"²⁹ Jesus said to him, "Have you believed because you have seen me? Blessed are those who have not seen and yet have come to believe."³⁰ Now Jesus did many other signs in the presence of his disciples, which are not written in this book.³¹ But these are written so that you may come to believe that Jesus is the Messiah, the Son of God, and that through believing you may have life in his name.

***P:** This is the Gospel of the Lord.

***C:** (sung) **Praise to you, O Christ.**

Children's Sermon/Sermon

***Hymn LBW #132** *"Come, You Faithful, Raise the Strain"*

(8am vs 1-2)

***Apostles Creed**

p. 65

**I believe in God, the Father almighty,
creator of heaven and earth.**

I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord.

**He was conceived by the power of the Holy Spirit and
born of the Virgin Mary. He suffered under Pontius Pilate,
was crucified, died, and was buried. He descended into
hell. On the third day he rose again. He ascended into
heaven, and is seated at the right hand of the Father. He
will come again 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**

*P: Rejoicing that Jesus is risen and love has triumphed over fear, let us pray for the church, the world, and all those in need of good news.

A brief silence.

*V: Your church cries out, O God, and you listen. As you drew near to the disciples, draw near to us this day. Breathe on us your Holy Spirit, that our faith is renewed and we witness to your love. Lord, in your mercy.

***C: Hear our prayer.**

*V: Your creation cries out, O God, and you listen. Nurture trees, crops, wildflowers, and all growing things. Guide farmers, gardeners, arborists, and others who tend the soil and nurture plants and animals into life. Lord, in your mercy.

***C: Hear our prayer.**

*V: Your world cries out, O God, and you listen. Guide police, firefighters, paramedics, and other first responders to work for the well-being of communities and the dignity of every person, that no one may need to live in fear. Lord, in your mercy.

***C: Hear our prayer.**

*V: Your children cry out, O God, and you listen. Hear your people crying out for justice, for an end to racism and other oppression, and for a world where all are fed and safe. We pray for all who cry out in suffering or pain. Heal the sick. Lord, in your mercy.

***C: Hear our prayer.**

*V: Your congregations cry out, O God, and you listen. Renew pastors, deacons, musicians, and other staff, administrators, and volunteers who facilitated Holy Week and Easter worship. Open our hearts to discern where God calls each of us to serve. Lord, in your mercy.

***C: Hear our prayer.**

Here other intercessions may be offered.

*V: Accept our gratitude, O God, for the lives of those who now rest in you especially Dietrich Bonhoeffer and all whose lives have been given in faithfulness to the gospel. Grant us your peace amid our fears. Lord, in your mercy.

***C: Hear our prayer.**

*P: Into your hands, most merciful God, we commend all for whom we pray, trusting in your abiding love; through Jesus Christ, our resurrected and living Lord.

*C: **Amen.**

***The Peace**

*P: The Peace of the Lord be with you always!

*C: **And also, with you.**

The Peace will be shared between the Pastor and Congregation.

***Offering**

The Offering may be dropped off at the beginning or end of the worship service.

We will thank God for our blessings, including the ability to give an offering for the work of God's kingdom.

Music at the Offering:

"Come, You Faithful, Raise the Strain" arr. Thomas Keesecker

***Offertory Prayer**

*P: Risen One,

*C: **you call us to believe and bear fruit. May the gifts that we offer here be signs of your abiding love. Form us to be your witnesses in the world, through Jesus Christ, our true vine. Amen**

***The Thanksgiving**

*P: It is indeed right we should at all times and in all places offer thanks and praise to you, O Lord, holy Father, almighty and ever living God. But chiefly we are bound to praise you for the glorious resurrection of our Lord; for he is the true Passover Lamb who gave himself to take away our sin, who by his death has destroyed death, and by his rising has brought us to eternal life. And so, with Mary Magdalene and Peter and all the witnesses of the resurrection, with earth and sea and all their creatures, and with angels and archangels we praise Your holy name and join their unending hymn:

***Sanctus** (sung)

p. 69

**Holy, Holy, Holy Lord, God of power and might:
Heaven and earth are full of your glory.
Hosanna. Hosanna. Hosanna in the highest.
Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.
Hosanna in the highest.**

***The Words of Institution**

***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.

***P:** 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.

***Lord's Prayer**

***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.

***Agnus Dei** (sung)

p. 72

**Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world;
have mercy on us.
Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world;
have mercy on us.
Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world;
grant us peace.**

***Invitation to Communion**

*P: The risen Christ is made known to us in the breaking of the bread.
Come and eat at God's table.

The bread and wine/grape juice will be distributed in the front of the church. If you would like to partake in your pew, please ask pastor to get you a pre-packaged communion set or ask an usher.

***Post-Communion Blessing**

*P: The body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen and preserve you onto everlasting life. Amen.

***Post Communion Cantic**

p. 72

***Thank the Lord and sing his praise;
tell everyone what he has done.***

***Let all who seek the Lord rejoice and proudly bear his name.
He recalls his promises and leads his people forth in joy with
shouts of thanksgiving. Alleluia. Alleluia.***

***Prayer after Communion**

*P: Almighty God, you gave your Son both as a sacrifice for sin and a model of the godly life. Enable us to receive him always with thanksgiving, and to conform our lives to his; through the same Jesus Christ our Lord.

***C: Amen.**

***Benediction**

*P: The Lord bless you and keep you. The Lord make his face shine on you and be gracious to you. The Lord look upon you with favor and give you peace.

***C: Amen.**

***Hymn LBW #145 "Thine is the Glory"**

(8am vs 1-2)

***Dismissal**

*P: Go in peace. Serve the Lord.

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

Postlude: "Thine in the Glory"

arr. Robert J. Hughes

Assisting in Worship Today

Altar Guild - Gloria M., Judy F.

8:00 AM - Ushers - Gordon & Ann B.

Lector: Rich S. - **Acolyte:** Alexis Difrancesca

Communion Assistant: Kathy W. & Rich S.

10:15 AM - Ushers - Phyllis & Joe A.

Lector: Linda H. - **Acolyte:** Peyton H.

Communion Assistant: Betty N., Volunteer

Contacts

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Pastor Walsh: 610-837-1061 / 484-282-0699 (emergency)

Pastor's Email: pastorterrywalsh@outlook.com

Follow us on Facebook:

St. John's church page: <https://www.facebook.com/St-Johns-Lutheran-Church-120814211266763/>

Pastor Walsh's page, for information on faith in the wider world:

<https://www.facebook.com/terrence.walsh.96>

Follow us on our website: www.stjohnsbathpa.org

Upcoming Commemorations

Dietrich Bonhoeffer, theologian, died 1945, Tuesday, April 9, 2024.

Bonhoeffer was a German theologian who wrote profoundly, yet in an accessible manner. In the Second World War, he became a leader of the Confessing Church in Germany that resisted the Nazi movement. Linked to a plot to kill Hitler, he was hanged shortly before the end of the war. **Mikael Agricola, Bishop of Turku, died 1557, Wednesday, April 10, 2024.** Consecrated bishop of Turku, Finland, without the approval of the pope, Agricola began a reform along Lutheran lines. In only three years, he translated the New Testament and worship texts into Finnish, in the process establishing the rules of Finnish writing that are still used today.

Stay up to date with worship schedule changes, meeting notices, and weather cancellations by
texting **STJOHNSBATH to 84576**
or connect with us online at **stjohnsbath.flocknote.com**

Welcome to St. John's!

We are glad that you are here to worship with us! We are in the midst of the Easter Season, which celebrates the presence of the Risen Christ with the disciples.

During the Easter Season we will light the Pascal Candle, the large candle located at the foot of the pulpit, which symbolizes the presence of the Resurrected Jesus with today's Christians who worship at St. John's or any other church. Our Bible readings will come from the Book of Acts, the first letter of Peter, and the Gospel of St. John. We rejoice in proclaiming that Christ is Risen! Christ is Risen Indeed, Alleluia!

You may be new to St. John's, new to the Bath area, new to Lutheran worship, or may have never before set foot in a church. Regardless how often you have sat in church we are glad to have you join us. We invite you to listen to the service, enjoy the music, and say prayers for yourself and all who are need. Have questions? Can't find the right page? Please see Pastor Terry or ask any of the ushers.

You are welcome. All are welcome. All are welcome in this place.

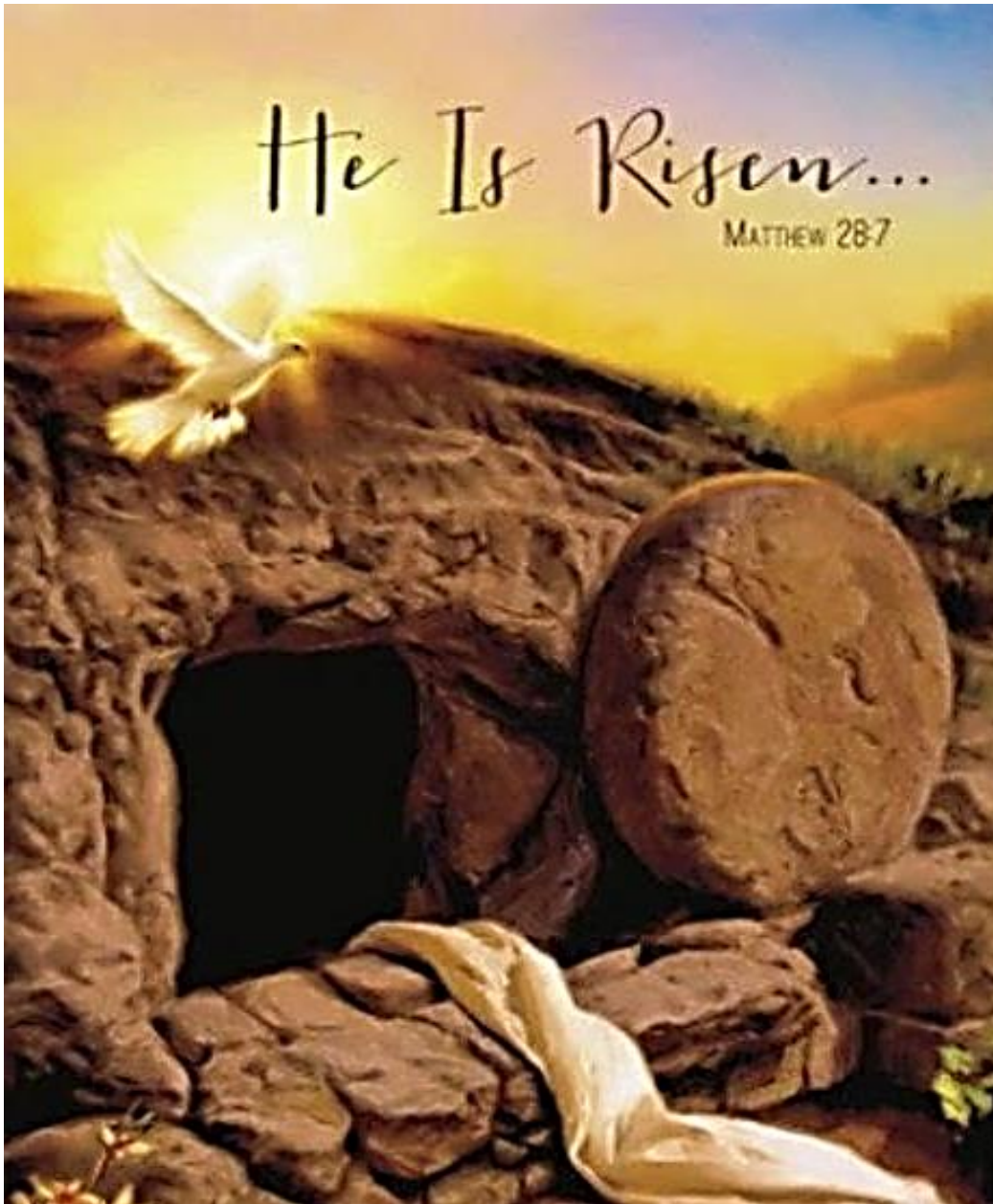
Online Giving Option: We share with you the new e-giving platform, Vanco. This platform provides a secure and user-friendly way to give to our church online, and we are confident that it will make giving more convenient for many members of our congregation. You can give now at this website link: <https://secure.myvanco.com/L-ZAB8>. Whether you choose to give online or in person, your support is vital to the continued success of our church community. grateful for your generosity and commitment to our shared mission. Thank you again for all that you do.



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get the Vanco App
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device

He Is Risen...

MATTHEW 28:7



Easter

2nd Sunday of Easter
Worship

Today's Announcements - Sunday, April 7, 2024
The Second Sunday of Easter

This Week at St. John's

| | | |
|-------------------|--------------------------------|--------------|
| 4/07/2024 - Sun. | Worship/Communion | 8:00 AM |
| | Sunday School/Confirmation | 9:00 AM |
| | 45 Min Bible Study | 9:15 AM |
| | Worship/Communion | 10:15 AM |
| | Masked Worship/Comm. (Library) | 11:45 AM |
| 4/08/2024 - Mon. | Quilters | 9:00 AM-Noon |
| | Girl Scouts | 6:00 PM |
| 4/09/2024 - Tues. | Food Bank Prep – Fell. Hall | 9:00-11:00AM |
| | Food Bank Distr. | 9:30-11:00AM |
| | Food Bank Distr. | 6:00-6:30 PM |
| 4/10/2024 - Wed. | Music & Worship Meeting | 6:00 PM |
| 4/11/2024 -Thurs. | Adult Choir Rehearsal | 7:00 PM |
| 4/14/2024 - Sun. | Worship | 8:00 AM |
| | Sunday School/Confirmation | 9:00 AM |
| | 45 Min Bible Study | 9:15 AM |
| | Worship | 10:15 AM |
| | Masked Worship/Comm. (Library) | 11:45 AM |

Nursery School Enrollment 2024-2025: Do you know someone looking for a great place to enroll their child in nursery school? Look no further and share the word, we have an amazing program and teachers here at St. John's Bath. Enrollment forms are available through Dawn Mayer at 610-837-9868 or by e-mailing stjohnbath@gmail.com. Classes for 2, 3, and 4-year old's.

News from Worship and Music: The following names are the current members of music and worship, Richard S., Cheryl A., Bonnie V., Jeannine W., and Judy F. The next music and worship meeting is going to be held at 6:00 PM on Wednesday April 10 in the choir room. If you have a comment or concern about music and worship please speak to any of the committee members.

Thank you: Thank you to the Molasses Crumb Pie baking volunteers. Many pies were made with delicious results including fellowship.

CPR/AED Training: Come join us for live saving training, Sunday April 14, 2024 at 2:00 PM in Fellowship Hall. Earl Ostrander (CPR Road Tour) will be teaching CPR and how to use the AED's. Cost for the class is \$40. Please fill out a class form and return by **TODAY**.

Prayers Requested For: Matthew A., Jim A., Eileen A., Phyllis & Joe A., Amy B., Allen B., Marsha B., Josie B., the B. Family, Barb B., Cory B., Jason C., Barry F., Laverne F., Kathy F., Lilly F., Arya G., Janis G., Eileen & Frank H., Shawn H., Troy H., Robert H., Chuck H., Scott & Heather H., Seana I., Dennis K., Gerry K., Lee L., Shirley L., Jorge L., Ruth M., The M. Family, Joe N., Danielle N., Samantha O., Arlene O., Brent R., Earl & Steve S., Ethel S., Louise S., Barb S., Beth S., Rosalia S., Gloria S., Dolly T., James T., Stacey T., Ann U., Viola W., Lisa W., Brenda W., LaNor W., Cecile W., Galen W., Susan W., Richard Y., Yvonne Y., Pauline Y., Francis Z., and those unnamed.

If you would like to add or remove a person from the prayer list, contact the Church Office (610-837-1061).