

COMMUNION



**The Sixth Sunday of Easter
May 5, 2024**

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

**Flowers Presented In Memory of Departed
Loved Ones by Jim G.**

**Flowers and Bulletins Presented In Honor of Our
Grandson C.'s Fifth Birthday
by John and Donna F.**

Prelude: "Ode to Joy"

arr. J. S. Dixon

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 LBW #359 "In Christ There Is No East or West" (8:00 AM 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:** O God,

***C:** **You have prepared for those who love you joys beyond understanding. Pour into our hearts such love for you that, loving you above all things, we may obtain your promises, which exceed all we can desire; through Jesus Christ, your Son and our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.**

First Reading: Acts 10:44-48

⁴⁴While Peter was still speaking, the Holy Spirit fell upon all who heard the word. ⁴⁵The circumcised believers who had come with Peter were astounded that the gift of the Holy Spirit had been poured out even on the Gentiles, ⁴⁶for they heard them speaking in tongues and extolling God. Then Peter said, ⁴⁷“Can anyone withhold the water for baptizing these people who have received the Holy Spirit just as we have?” ⁴⁸So he ordered them to be baptized in the name of Jesus Christ. Then they invited him to stay for several days.

Second Reading: 1 John 5:1-6

¹Everyone who believes that Jesus is the Christ has been born of God, and everyone who loves the parent loves the child. ²By this we know that we love the children of God, when we love God and obey his commandments. ³For the love of God is this, that we obey his commandments. And his commandments are not burdensome, ⁴for whatever is born of God conquers the world. And this is the victory that conquers the world, our faith. ⁵Who is it that conquers the world but the one who believes that Jesus is the Son of God? ⁶This is the one who came by water and blood, Jesus Christ, not with the water only but with the water and the blood. And the Spirit is the one that testifies, for the Spirit is the truth.

***Gospel Verse** (sung)

p. 62

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

(2)

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

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

***Gospel: John 15:9-17**

[Jesus said:] ⁹“As the Father has loved me, so I have loved you; abide in my love. ¹⁰If you keep my commandments, you will abide in my love, just as I have kept my Father’s commandments and abide in his love. ¹¹I have said these things to you so that my joy may be in you, and that your joy may be complete. ¹²“This is my commandment, that you love one another as I have loved you. ¹³No one has greater love than this, to lay down one’s life for one’s friends. ¹⁴You are my friends if you do what I command you. ¹⁵I do not call you servants any longer, because the servant does not know what the master is doing; but I have called you friends, because I have made known to you everything that I have heard from my Father. ¹⁶You did not choose me but I chose you. And I appointed you to go and bear fruit, fruit that will last, so that the Father will give you whatever you ask him in my name. ¹⁷I am giving you these commands so that you may love one another.”

*P: This is the Gospel of the Lord.

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

Children’s Sermon/Sermon

***Hymn LBW #518 “Beautiful Savior”**

(8:00 AM 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 Holy Spirit falls upon all who hear the word. Fill your church with the gifts of your Spirit and give understanding hearts to those who strengthen our commitments with our ecumenical and interreligious partners. We remember Blessed Trinity Lutheran at Rosemont. Lord, in your mercy,

***C: hear our prayer.**

*V: You speak and the face of the earth is renewed. Revive your creation, that habitats and every kind of living thing might flourish. Protect endangered species and help us to care for all your creatures. Lord, in your mercy,

***C: hear our prayer.**

*V: Your world is divided and the nations rage. Grant wisdom and vision to world leaders, that they may seek justice, peace, and the good of all. Strengthen international partnerships and cooperation. Lord, in your mercy,

***C: hear our prayer.**

*V: Your children are in need. Comfort all those who suffer, especially those afflicted by anxiety, depression, and mental illness. Heal the sick. Help us to be conduits of your love in our care for one another. Lord, in your mercy,

***C: hear our prayer.**

*V: Your work is done in this place with our hands. Bless the ministries of this congregation, that we may embody your love for the world. Inspire those who plan and lead worship, council members, committee members, and volunteers. Lord, in your mercy,

***C: hear our prayer.**

Here other intercessions may be offered.

*V: Your blessed saints now rest in you. Give us thankful hearts for those who have gone before us. At the last, bring us all together around your heavenly banquet table. 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.**

(4)

***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:

(8:00 am) "Communion Medley"

arr. Lee Dengler

(10:15 am) "We Come As Guests Invited"

arr. Smith/Carter

***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 everliving 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.

**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 #551** *“Joyful, Joyful, We Adore Thee”*

***Dismissal**

***P:** Go in peace. Serve the Lord.

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

Postlude: *“Fugue”*

arr. J. Seeger

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Assisting in Worship Today

Altar Guild - Kim M., Stephanie R.

8:00 AM - Ushers - John & Sarajane P.

Lector: Rich S. - **Acolyte:** Cooper H.

Communion Assistant: John Fry, Rich S.

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

Lector: Laura T. - **Acolyte:** Paige H.

Communion Assistant: Jim G., Betty N.

Contacts

Office Phone: 610-837-1061

Church Email: stjohnbath@gmail.com

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

Julian of Norwich, renewer of the church, died around 1416, Wednesday, May 8, 2024 - When she was about thirty years old, Julian (or Juliana)

reported visions that she later compiled into a book, *Sixteen Revelations of Divine Love*, now a classic of medieval mysticism. The visions declared that love was the meaning of religious experience, provided by Christ who is love, for the purpose of love.

Victor the Moor, martyr, died 303 Wednesday, May 8, 2024 - Also known as Victor Maurus, this native of the northwest African nation of Mauritania was a soldier in the Roman Praetorian Guard. Under the persecution of Maximian, Victor died for his faith at Milan.

Nicolaus Ludwig von Zinzendorf, renewer of the church, hymnwriter, died 1760, Thursday, May 9, 2024 - When he was 22, a group of Moravians asked permission to live on Zinzendorf's land. He agreed, and eventually worldwide Moravian missions emanated from this community. Zinzendorf participated in these missions, and is also remembered for writing hymns characteristic of his Pietistic faith.

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. We are so grateful for your generosity and commitment to our shared mission. Thank you again for all that you do.



Scan this code to
get the Vanco App
on your mobile
device

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.

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., Alton E., Bev F., Barry F., Laverne F., Kathy F., Lilly F., Arya G., Eileen & Frank H., Shawn H., Troy H., Ned H., Robert H., Chuck H., Scott & Heather H., Seana I., Dennis K., Gerry K., Danny K., Lee L., Shirley L., Gwyn 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., Rev. Jay W., Peggy W., Lisa W., Brenda W., LaNor W., Cecile W., Galen W., Susan W., Richard Y., Yvonne Y., Pauline Y., The Z. Family, Helen Z., Robert Z., Francis Z.

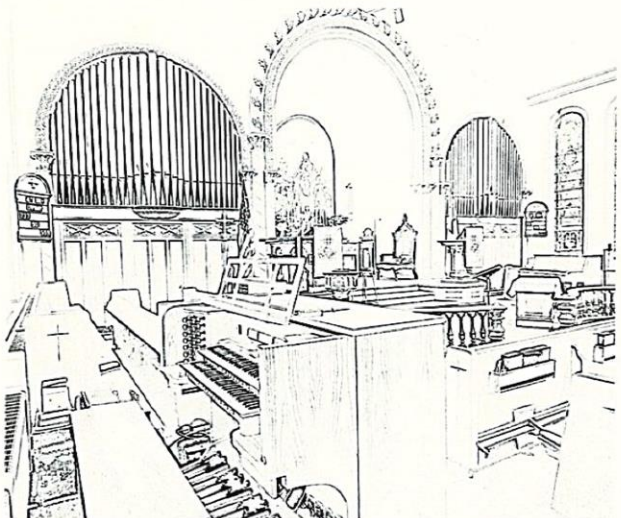
If you would like to add or remove a person from the prayer list, contact the Church Office (610-837-1061).

Today's Announcements - Sunday, May 5, 2024

The Sixth Sunday of Easter

This Week at St. John's

5/05/2024 - Sun.	Worship/Communion	8:00 AM
	Sunday School	9:00 AM
	45 Min Bible Study	9:15 AM
	Worship/Communion	10:15 AM
	Masked Worship/Comm. (Library)	11:45 AM
5/06/2024 - Mon.	Quilters	9:00 AM-Noon
5/09/2024 -Thurs.	Adult Choir Rehearsal	7:00PM
5/12/2024 - Sun.	Worship	8:00 AM
	Sunday School	9:00 AM
	45 Min Bible Study	9:15 AM
	Worship	10:15 AM
	Masked Worship/Comm. (Library)	11:45 AM



Organ Recital and Rededication
Organists: Lou Carol Fix, Patrice A. Kidd, John C. Brewster, Kevin R. Ehrig and Thomas D. Busteed

St. John's Lutheran Church
206 E. Main St
Bath, PA 18014

Sunday, May 19th, 2024
3pm