

Holy Communion



**The Fifth Sunday after the Epiphany
February 4, 2024**

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

**Bulletins Presented In Memory of Departed Loved
Ones by the Thomas W. Family**

Prelude: "On Eagle's Wings"

arr. Janet Vogt

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: Blessed be the holy Trinity, one God, who opens the heavens and draws near to us with salvation.

*C: **Amen.**

*P: God is patient and merciful, desiring all to come to repentance. Trusting this promise of grace, let us confess our sin.

Silence is kept for reflection.

*P: Everlasting God,

*C: **you love justice and you hate wrongdoing. We confess the fear, greed, and self-centeredness that make us reluctant to confront sin. We choose comfort over courage. We are careless with creation's bounty. Look upon us with mercy. Turn our hearts again to you. Make us glad to do your will and to walk in your ways for the sake of our waiting world. Amen.**

*P: Hear these words of assurance: God clothes you with garments of salvation and covers you with robes of righteousness. In the tender compassion of Jesus Christ, your sins are forgiven. God's covenant is eternal, and God's blessing rests upon us all.

*C: **Amen.**

*Hymn LBW #543 "*Praise to the Lord, the Almighty*"

*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.**

Refrain

This is the feast of victory for our God. Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.

Verse 1

Worthy is Christ, the Lamb who was slain, whose blood set us free to be people of God.

(Refrain)

Verse 2

Power, riches, wisdom, and strength, and honor, blessings and glory are his.

(Refrain)

Verse 3

Sing with all the people of God, and join in the hymn of all creation: Blessing, honor, glory, and might be to God and the Lamb forever. Amen.

(Refrain)

Verse 4

For the Lamb who was slain has begun his reign. Alleluia.

(Refrain)

***Prayer of the Day**

*P: Everlasting God,

***C: You give strength to the weak and power to the faint. Make us agents of your healing and wholeness, that your good news may be made known to the ends of your creation, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.**

First Reading: Isaiah 40:21-31

²¹Have you not known? Have you not heard? Has it not been told you from the beginning? Have you not understood from the foundations of the earth? ²²It is he who sits above the circle of the earth, and its inhabitants are like grasshoppers; who stretches out the heavens like a curtain, and spreads them like a tent to live in; ²³who brings princes to naught, and makes the rulers of the earth as nothing. ²⁴Scarcely are they planted, scarcely sown, scarcely has their stem taken root in the earth, when he blows upon them, and they wither, and the tempest carries them off like stubble. ²⁵To whom then will you compare me, or who is my equal? says the Holy One. ²⁶Lift up your eyes on high and see: Who created these? He who brings out their host and numbers them, calling them all by name; because he is great in strength, mighty in power, not one is missing. ²⁷Why do you say, O Jacob, and speak, O Israel, "My →

way is hidden from the LORD, and my right is disregarded by my God"? ²⁸Have you not known? Have you not heard? The LORD is the everlasting God, the Creator of the ends of the earth. He does not faint or grow weary; his understanding is unsearchable. ²⁹He gives power to the faint, and strengthens the powerless. ³⁰Even youths will faint and be weary, and the young will fall exhausted; ³¹but those who wait for the LORD shall renew their strength, they shall mount up with wings like eagles, they shall run and not be weary, they shall walk and not faint.

Second Reading: 1 Corinthians 9:16-23

¹⁶If I proclaim the gospel, this gives me no ground for boasting, for an obligation is laid on me, and woe to me if I do not proclaim the gospel! ¹⁷For if I do this of my own will, I have a reward; but if not of my own will, I am entrusted with a commission. ¹⁸What then is my reward? Just this: that in my proclamation I may make the gospel free of charge, so as not to make full use of my rights in the gospel. ¹⁹For though I am free with respect to all, I have made myself a slave to all, so that I might win more of them. ²⁰To the Jews I became as a Jew, in order to win Jews. To those under the law I became as one under the law (though I myself am not under the law) so that I might win those under the law. ²¹To those outside the law I became as one outside the law (though I am not free from God's law but am under Christ's law) so that I might win those outside the law. ²²To the weak I became weak, so that I might win the weak. I have become all things to all people, that I might by all means save some. ²³I do it all for the sake of the gospel, so that I may share in its blessings.

***Gospel Verse**

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

*P: The Holy Gospel according to St. Mark, the first chapter.

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

Gospel: Mark 1:29-39

²⁹As soon as [Jesus and the disciples] left the synagogue, they entered the house of Simon and Andrew, with James and John.

³⁰Now Simon's mother-in-law was in bed with a fever, and they told him about her at once. ³¹He came and took her by the hand and lifted her up. Then the fever left her, and she began to serve them.

³²That evening, at sunset, they brought to him all who were sick or possessed with demons. ³³And the whole city was gathered around the door. ³⁴And he cured many who were sick with various diseases, and cast out many demons; and he would not permit the demons to speak, because they knew him. ³⁵In the morning, while it was still very dark, he got up and went out to a deserted place, and there he prayed.

³⁶And Simon and his companions hunted for him. ³⁷When they found him, they said to him, "Everyone is searching for you."

³⁸He answered, "Let us go on to the neighboring towns, so that I may proclaim the message there also; for that is what I came out to do."

³⁹And he went throughout Galilee, proclaiming the message in their synagogues and casting out demons.

*P: This is the Gospel of the Lord.

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

Children's Sermon/Sermon

*Hymn WOV #779 *"You Who Dwell in the Shelter of the Lord"*

***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 (only).

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) *"A Eucharistic Meditation"*

(10:15 am) *"I Will Sing Unto the Lord"*

arr. L. Leatherman

arr. Killion/Martin

*Offertory Prayer

*P: God our provider,

***C: by your merciful hand abundance springs up from the earth. Receive and bless these gifts of your own bounty. Let them be a sign of your steadfast love and faithfulness for all people, through Jesus Christ our Savior. Amen.**

*Prayers of Intercession

*P: With hope and expectation, we offer our prayers for the church, the world, and all who await God's day of restoration.

A brief silence.

*V: Everlasting God, you bring your healing power to the church. Give your church a spirit of unity and prayer, that we discern your way for us in the world. Lord, in your mercy,

***C: Hear our prayer.**

*V: Creator of the ends of the earth, you make the grass grow and send rain for the soil. Bring your creation into harmony and balance. Give animals their food and provide healthy shelter for your people. Inspire us to honor the miraculous beauty of all you have made. Lord, in your mercy,

***C: Hear our prayer.**

*V: God without equal, your steadfast love endures forever. Bring the leaders, elected officials, and community members of our towns and countries into understanding and unity. Guide them to serve with compassion and understanding. Lord, in your mercy,

***C: Hear our prayer.**

*V: God who strengthens, you lift up with your hand any who are suffering. Heal those who are brokenhearted and strengthen the weak and all in need. Heal the sick. Lord, in your mercy,

***C: Hear our prayer.**

*V: God who gives power to the faint, challenge us to share the faith stories of what God has done in our lives. Open us to receive the unique ways God is at work in your people, especially those whose perspectives challenge our own. Lord, in your mercy,

***C: Hear our prayer.**

Here other intercessions may be offered.

*V: God who calls each star by name, we remember all who have died. Shelter all who mourn with your mercy and care, and give us hope in your promised salvation. Lord, in your mercy,

***C: Hear our prayer.**

*P: Knowing the Holy Spirit intercedes for us, we offer these prayers and the silent prayers of our hearts in the name of our Savior, Jesus Christ.

***C: Amen.**

***Lord's Prayer**

*P: Lord, 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 Thanksgiving**

*P: It is indeed right and salutary that we should at all times and in all places offer thanks and praise to you, O Lord, holy Father, through Christ our Lord. Sharing our life, he lived among us to reveal your glory and love, that our darkness should give way to his own brilliant light. And so, with the Church on earth and the hosts of heaven, we praise your name and join their unending hymn:

***Sanctus**

p. 69

***Holy, Holy, Holy Lord, God of pow'r 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. (6)

*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.

***Agnus Dei**

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: In this meal, righteousness and peace meet together. Come, take your place at the 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 Canticle**

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: Generous God, in bread and cup you have revealed your glory for all people to see together. Nourished by this meal, send us out to proclaim your good news of liberation and release, brought to birth in Jesus Christ our Savior.

***C: Amen.**

***Benediction**

*P: The God of peace bless you, the love of Christ sustain you in hope, and the anointing of the Spirit remain upon you now and forever.

*C: **Amen.**

*Hymn LBW #548 *“Oh, Worship the King”*

***Dismissal**

*P: Go in peace. Serve the Lord.

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

Postlude: *“Fuga”*

arr. Pachelbel

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Assisting in Worship Today

Altar Guild - Gloria M., Judy F.

8:00 AM - Robert & Robin M.

Lector: John F. / Acolyte: Gabrielle P.

Communion Assistants: Kathy W., John F.

10:15 AM - Ushers - Kim M., Jan B.

Lector: Samantha A. / Acolyte: Ethan B.

Communion Assistants: Dawn M., Jeannine W.

Contacts

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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



WELCOME TO ST. JOHN'S!

We are glad that you are here to worship with us! We are in the midst of the Epiphany Season, which runs from the Epiphany of Our Lord on January 6th until "Shrove Tuesday" or "Fat Tuesday." In 2024, Shrove Tuesday will be on February 13th. The Epiphany season teaches us about Jesus revealing himself to the world. The word "epiphany" means a manifestation or a showing forth. In the Epiphany season we remember the coming of the Wise Men to see the baby Jesus, the baptism of Jesus at the Jordan River, and the earliest days of Jesus' ministry. Together we will worship our Lord as the disciples are called by Jesus and as the world hears Jesus' calling each of us to lives of love, forgiveness and service.

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.

Today's Announcements - Sunday, February 4, 2024 The Fifth Sunday after the Epiphany

This Week at St. John's

2/4/2024 - 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
2/5/2024 - Mon.	Quilters	9:00 AM-Noon
	Girl Scouts	6:00 PM
2/8/2024 -Thurs.	Adult Choir Rehearsal	7:00 PM
2/11/2024 - Sun.	Worship	8:00 AM
	Sunday School/Confirmation	9:00 AM
	45 Min Bible Study	9:15 AM
	Worship	10:15 AM
	Masked Worship (Library)	11:45 AM

Home Heating Help Are you or your neighbors having trouble paying your heating bill? You can get information or request help at 800-UGI-WARM.

Save the Date: The highly anticipated Lenten fish dinners are coming. Dates are Friday, March 1, 2024 and Friday, March 15, 2024. Order forms are available for the first dinner. Desserts are first come so please get your orders in early.

Easter Flowers: We have Tulip, Daffodils, Lily, and Azalea plants for Easter Sunday, March 31, 2024. If you want to purchase a plant in memory of or in honor of a loved one, tulips and daffodils are \$7 each, and lilies are \$10 each, and azaleas are \$13 each. Fill out an order form, turn in to the office or call (610-837-1061). Plants may be picked up after either service on Easter. Orders must be placed by February 25.



Prayers Requested For: Matthew A., Jim A., Eileen A., Phyllis & Joe A., Amy B., Allen B., Marsha B., Josie B., Shane B., Barb B., Cory B., Jamie B., Dawn & Bill B., Jason C., Patty & Larry D., Laverne F., Kathy F., Lilly F., Arya G., Cami Grace G., Janis G., Shawn H., Lil H., Troy H., the family of Dolores H., Robert H., Chuck H., Scott & Heather H., Seana I., Dennis K., Gerry K., Mary K., Steve K., Diane L., Lee L., Jeff L., Ruth M., The M. Family, April Rose M., Joe N., Danielle N., Samantha O., Arlene O., Brent R., Earl & Steve S., Ethel S., Louise S., Barb S., Beth S., Pastor Bill 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).

Upcoming Commemorations

The Martyrs of Japan, died 1597 - Monday, February 5, 2024.

Christianity was brought to Japan in the sixteenth century by Jesuit and Franciscan missionaries. The religion was suppressed, however, and in 1597 twenty-six missionaries and converts were crucified. Nevertheless, Christianity survived and later prospered.

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.

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

Music and Worship Meeting: The next meeting is set for Tuesday, February 13, 2024, at 6:00 PM; all are welcome.