



ST. JOHN'S

EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH

100 E Water Street

Abbottstown, PA 17301

717-259-0796

www.stjohnsatown.com



Introduction

The image of the good shepherd shows us how the risen Christ brings us to life. It is the relationship between the shepherd and the sheep, one of mutual knowledge and love, that gives the shepherd authority. The shepherd's willingness to lay down his life for the sheep shows his love. First John illustrates what it means to lay down our lives for one another by the example of sharing our wealth with any sibling in need.

About Holy Communion

St. John's practices Eucharistic hospitality. All baptized persons are invited to join us for Holy Communion, to receive the Lord's body and blood for forgiveness of sin and renewal of life. The church provides pre-filled communion elements, that were consecrated to be used in the pews or in the home, please help yourself. If you need these communion elements, please take a few from the rear of the church or stop by the church office.

April 28, 2024

PRELUDE

“Savior, Like a Shepherd Lead Us”

Wagner/Bradbury

THE EASTER GREETING

Alleluia! Christ has Risen!

He is Risen indeed! Alleluia!



THE ANNOUNCEMENTS AND WELCOME

THE GATHERING

***THANKSGIVING FOR BAPTISM**

All may make the sign of the cross, the sign that is marked at baptism, as the presiding minister begins.

Blessed be the holy Trinity, ✚ one God, the wellspring of grace, our Easter and our joy.

Amen.

Look, here is water!

Here is our water of life! Alleluia!

Immersed in the promises of baptism, let us give thanks for what God has done for us.

We give you thanks, O God, for in the beginning your voice thundered over the deep and water became the essence of life.

Adam and Eve beheld Eden’s verdant rivers.

The ark carried your creation through the flood into a new day.

Miriam led the dancing as your people passed through the sea into freedom’s land.

In a desert pool the Ethiopian official entered your boundless baptismal life.

Look, here is water!

Here is our water of life! Alleluia!

At the river your beloved Son was baptized by John and anointed with the Holy Spirit.

By the baptism of Jesus’ death and resurrection you opened the floodgates of your reconciling love, freeing us to live as Easter people. We rejoice with glad hearts, giving all honor and praise to you, through the risen Christ, our source of living water, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, now and forever.

Amen.

Look, here is water!

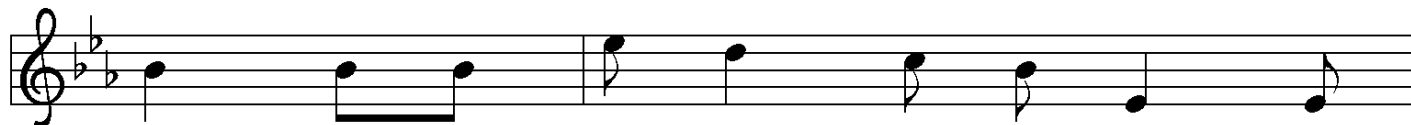
Here is our water of life! Alleluia!



“Have No Fear, Little Flock”



1 Have no fear, lit - tle flock; have no fear, lit - tle
2 Have good cheer, lit - tle flock; have good cheer, lit - tle
3 Praise the Lord high a - bove; praise the Lord high a -
4 Thank - ful hearts raise to God; thank - ful hearts raise to



flock, for the Fa - ther has cho - sen to
flock, for the Fa - ther will keep you in
bove, for he stoops down to heal you, up -
God, for he stays close be - side you, in



give you the king - dom; have no fear, lit - tle flock!
his love for - ev - er; have good cheer, lit - tle flock!
lift and re - store you; praise the Lord high a - bove!
all things works with you; thank - ful hearts raise to God!

Text: Luke 12:32, st. 1; Marjorie Jillson, b. 1931, sts. 2-4
Music: LITTLE FLOCK, Heinz Werner Zimmermann, b. 1930
Text and music © 1973 Concordia Publishing House.

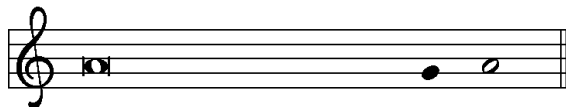
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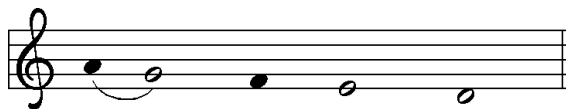
***THE GREETING**

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.**

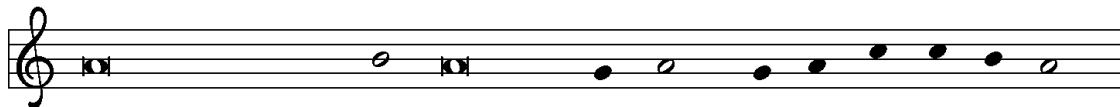
*THE KYRIE



In peace, let us pray to the Lord.



Lord, have mer - cy.



For the peace from a-bove, and for our sal - vation, let us pray to the Lord.



Lord, have mer - cy.



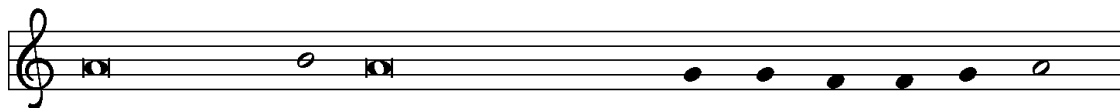
For the peace of the whole world, for the well-being of the church of God,



and for the unity of all, let us pray to the Lord.



Lord, have mer - cy.



For this holy house, and for all who offer here their wor-ship and praise,



let us pray to the Lord. Lord have mer - cy.



Help, save, comfort, and de - fend us, gra-cious Lord. A - men.

*THE PRAYER OF THE DAY

The Lord be with you. **And also with you.**

Let us pray... O Lord Christ, good shepherd of the sheep, you seek the lost and guide us into your fold. Feed us, and we shall be satisfied; heal us, and we shall be whole. Make us one with you, for you live and reign with the Father and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

Amen.

THE WORD

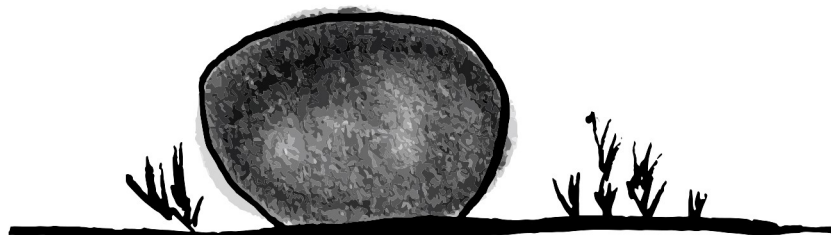
FIRST READING: Acts 4:5-12

⁵The next day [the] rulers, elders, and scribes assembled in Jerusalem, ⁶with Annas the high priest, Caiaphas, John, and Alexander, and all who were of the high-priestly family. ⁷When they had made the prisoners stand in their midst, they inquired, “By what power or by what name did you do this?” ⁸Then Peter, filled with the Holy Spirit, said to them, “Rulers of the people and elders, ⁹if we are questioned today because of a good deed done to someone who was sick and are asked how this man has been healed, ¹⁰let it be known to all of you, and to all the people of Israel, that this man is standing before you in good health by the name of Jesus Christ of Nazareth, whom you crucified, whom God raised from the dead. ¹¹This Jesus is

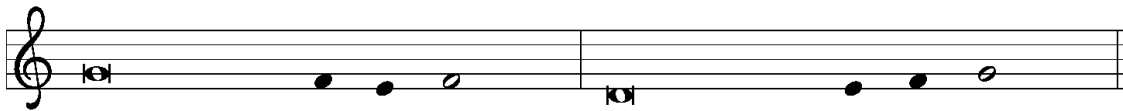
‘the stone that was rejected by you, the builders;
it has become the cornerstone.’

¹²There is salvation in no one else, for there is no other name under heaven given among mortals by which we must be saved.”

Word of God, word of life. **Thanks be to God.**



Psalm 23



¹The LORD¹ is my shepherd;
I shall not¹ be in want.

²**The LORD makes me lie down¹ in green pastures
and leads me be-¹ side still waters.**

³You restore my¹ soul, O LORD,
and guide me along right pathways¹ for your name's sake.

⁴**Though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death, I shall¹ fear no evil;
for you are with me; your rod and your staff, they¹ comfort me.**

⁵You prepare a table before me in the presence¹ of my enemies;
you anoint my head with oil, and my cup is¹ running over.

⁶**Surely goodness and mercy shall follow me all the days¹ of my life,
and I will dwell in the house of the¹ LORD forever.**

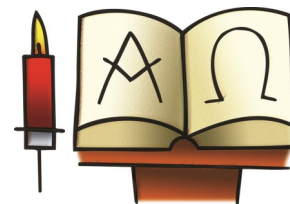
SECOND READING: 1 John 3:16-24

¹⁶We know love by this, that [Jesus Christ] laid down his life for us—and we ought to lay down our lives for one another. ¹⁷How does God's love abide in anyone who has the world's goods and sees a brother or sister in need and yet refuses help?

¹⁸Little children, let us love, not in word or speech, but in truth and action. ¹⁹And by this we will know that we are from the truth and will reassure our hearts before him ²⁰whenever our hearts condemn us; for God is greater than our hearts, and he knows everything. ²¹Beloved, if our hearts do not condemn us, we have boldness before God; ²²and we receive from him whatever we ask, because we obey his commandments and do what pleases him.

²³And this is his commandment, that we should believe in the name of his Son Jesus Christ and love one another, just as he has commanded us. ²⁴All who obey his commandments abide in him, and he abides in them. And by this we know that he abides in us, by the Spirit that he has given us.

Word of God, word of life. **Thanks be to God.**



*GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Al - le - lu - ia. Lord, to whom shall we go?
You have the words of e - ter - nal life. Al - le - lu - ia.

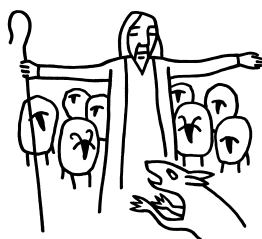
*GOSPEL READING: John 10:11-18

The Holy Gospel according to Saint John the 10th Chapter.

Glory to you, O Lord.

[Jesus said:] ¹¹“I am the good shepherd. The good shepherd lays down his life for the sheep. ¹²The hired hand, who is not the shepherd and does not own the sheep, sees the wolf coming and leaves the sheep and runs away—and the wolf snatches them and scatters them. ¹³The hired hand runs away because a hired hand does not care for the sheep. ¹⁴I am the good shepherd. I know my own and my own know me, ¹⁵just as the Father knows me and I know the Father. And I lay down my life for the sheep. ¹⁶I have other sheep that do not belong to this fold. I must bring them also, and they will listen to my voice. So there will be one flock, one shepherd. ¹⁷For this reason the Father loves me, because I lay down my life in order to take it up again. ¹⁸No one takes it from me, but I lay it down of my own accord. I have power to lay it down, and I have power to take it up again. I have received this command from my Father.”

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



CHILDREN’S SERMON

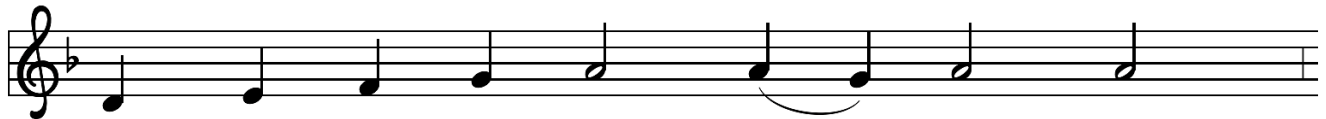
Deacon Amy Mambu

SERMON

Pastor Shawn Berkebile

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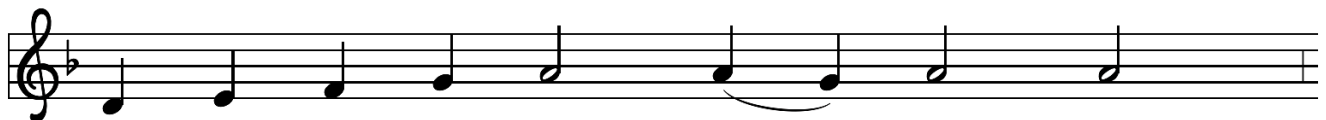
"You, Lord, Are Both Lamb and Shepherd"



1 You, Lord, are both Lamb and Shep - herd.
2 Clothed in light up - on the moun - tain,
3 You, who walk each day be - side us,
4 Wor - thy is our earth - ly Je - sus!



You, Lord, are both prince and slave.
stripped of might up - on the cross,
sit in pow - er at God's side.
Wor - thy is our cos - mic Christ!



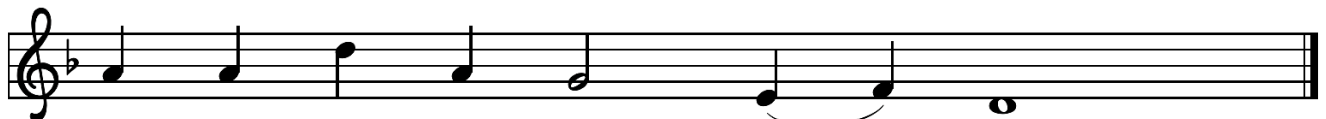
You, peace - mak - er and sword - bring - er
shin - ing in e - ter - nal glo - ry,
You, who preach a way that's nar - row,
Wor - thy your de - feat and vic - t'ry;



of the way you took and gave.
beg - gared by a sol - dier's toss,
have a love that reach - es wide.
wor - thy still your peace and strife.



You, the ev - er - last - ing in - stant;
you, the ev - er - last - ing in - stant;
You, the ev - er - last - ing in - stant;
You, the ev - er - last - ing in - stant;



you, whom we both scorn and crave.
you, who are both gift and cost.
you, who are our pil - grim and guide.
you, who are our death and life.

***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**

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)

God of grace, **hear our prayer.**

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. **Amen.**

***SHARING OF THE PEACE**

The peace of Christ be with you always. **And also with you.**

Please share a sign of peace with those in your household.

If you are watching on Facebook offer a message of peace in the comment section.

THE MEAL

THE OFFERING

Follow the QR Code, [\(click here\)](#) or go to www.stjohnsatown.com to make your gift. You will have the option to make a one time donation or a recurring donation. This website is easy, quick and very secure.

Thank you for your support!



OFFERTORY ANTHEM *“My Shepherd Will Supply My Need”* Chancel Choir
Norbert Mamet, bassoon

***OFFERTORY RESPONSE**

ELW 183



Let the vine - yards be fruit - ful, Lord, and
fill to the brim our cup of bless - ing. Gath - er a
har - vest from the seeds that were sown, that we may be fed with the
bread of life. Gath - er the hopes and the dreams of all; u -
nite them with the prayers we of - fer. Grace our ta - ble with your
pres - ence, and give us a fore - taste of the feast to come.

***OFFERING PRAYER**

Let us pray... Risen One, 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.**



*GREAT THANKSGIVING

The Lord be with you. And al - so 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.

The image shows four staves of musical notation in G major (one sharp). The first staff has two measures: 'The Lord be with you.' and 'And al - so with you.'. The second staff has two measures: 'Lift up your hearts.' and 'We lift them to the Lord.'. The third staff has one long measure: 'Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.'. The fourth staff has one long measure: 'It is right to give our thanks and praise.'.

*PREFACE

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, for the glorious resurrection of our Savior Jesus Christ, the true Paschal Lamb who gave himself to take away our sin; who in dying has destroyed death, and in 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, cherubim and seraphim, we praise your name and join their unending hymn:

Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, Lord God of pow'r and might,
heav'n and earth are full of your glo - ry.
Ho - san - na in the high - est. Bless - ed is he who comes
in the name of the Lord. Ho - san - na in the high - est.

The image shows four staves of musical notation in G major (one sharp). The first staff has two measures: 'Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, Lord God of pow'r and might,'. The second staff has two measures: 'heav'n and earth are full of your glo - ry.'. The third staff has two measures: 'Ho - san - na in the high - est. Bless - ed is he who comes'. The fourth staff has two measures: 'in the name of the Lord. Ho - san - na in the high - est.'.

***THANKSGIVING AT THE TABLE**

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.

And now, let us pray together using the words Jesus has taught us...

***THE LORD'S PRAYER**

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**

The risen Christ is made known to us in the breaking of the bread.

Come and eat at God's table.

COMMUNION DISTRIBUTION

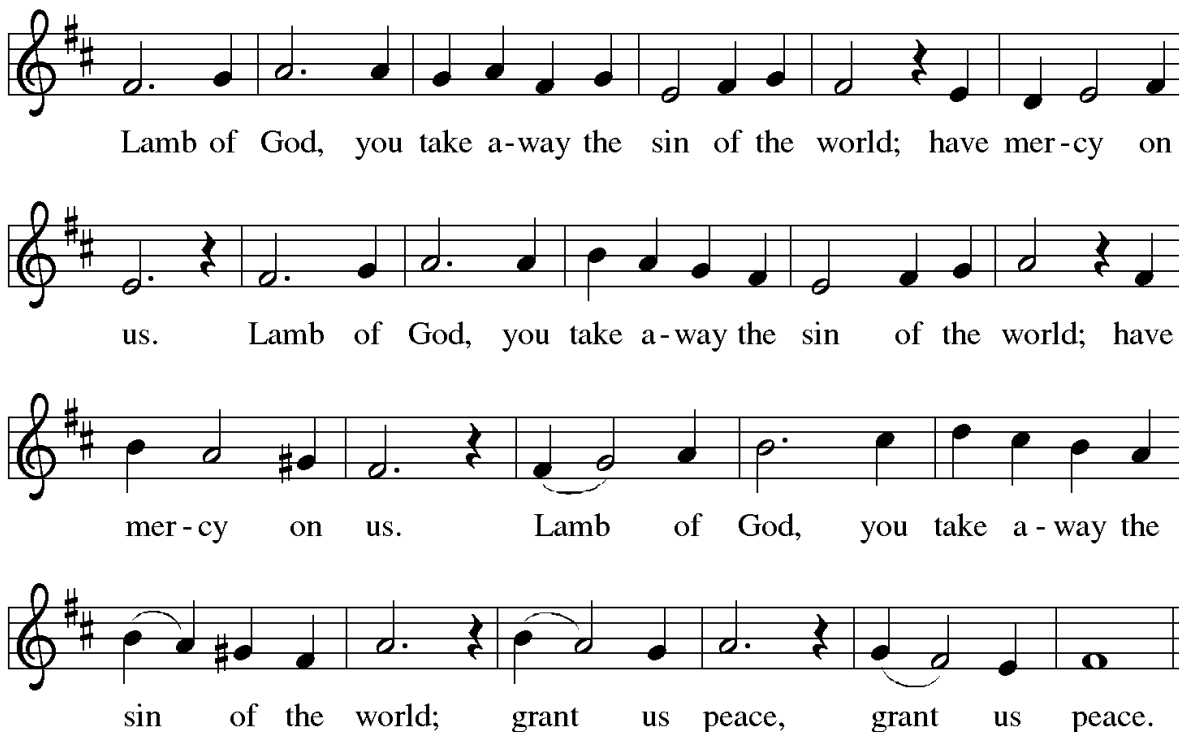
The body of Christ, given for you.

The blood of Christ, shed for you.



*The Altar Flowers are presented to the Glory of God and in memory of
Helen and Will Rodgers, and Polly and Francis Renaut,
by Dave and Donna Renaut and Family.*

*LAMB OF GOD



Lamb of God, you take a-way the sin of the world; have mer-cy on
us. Lamb of God, you take a-way the sin of the world; have
mer-cy on us. Lamb of God, you take a-way the
sin of the world; grant us peace, grant us peace.

*POST COMMUNION BLESSING

The body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen you and keep you in his grace. **Amen.**

*POST COMMUNION PRAYER

Let us pray...Shepherding God, you have prepared a table before us and nourished us with your love. Send us forth from this banquet to proclaim your goodness and share the abundant mercy of Jesus, our redeemer and friend.

Amen.

THE SENDING

*THE BLESSING

Alleluia! Christ is risen!

Christ is risen indeed! Alleluia!

The God of resurrection power, the Christ of unending joy,
and the Spirit of Easter hope ✝ bless you now and always. **Amen.**



"The King of Love My Shepherd Is" vs. 1 & 6

1 The King of love my shep - herd is, whose good - ness
 2 Where streams of liv - ing wa - ter flow, my ran - somed
 3 Per - verse and fool - ish oft I strayed, but yet in
 4 In death's dark vale I fear no ill, with thee, dear

fail - eth nev - er; I noth - ing lack if
 soul he lead - eth and, where the ver - dant
 love he sought me, and on his shoul - der
 Lord, be - side me, thy rod and staff my

I am his and he is mine for - ev - er.
 pas - tures grow, with food ce - les - tial feed - eth.
 gent - ly laid, and home, re - joic - ing, brought me.
 com - fort still; thy cross be - fore to guide me.

5 Thou spreadst a table in my sight;
 thine unction grace bestoweth;
 and, oh, what transport of delight
 from thy pure chalice floweth!

6 And so, through all the length of days,
 thy goodness faileth never.
 Good Shepherd, may I sing thy praise
 within thy house forever.

*THE DISMISSAL

Alleluia! Go in peace. Rejoice and be glad.

Thanks be to God. Alleluia! We Will!

POSTLUDE

“Recessional”

Wagner

+

+

+

Serving St. John’s - April 28

Head Usher Barb Colandreo
Communion Assistant Lori Slothour
Acolyte Clara Berkebile
Greeters Warren and Gretchen Smith
Lector Rachel Berkebile

Serving St. John’s - May 5

Head Usher Brent Sauter
Communion Assistant(volunteer needed)
Acolyte(volunteer needed)
Greeters Autumn Cole and Gracie Lehman
Lector Mike Omlor

We are looking for worship assistant volunteers. Please see the sign-up sheets in the Fellowship Hall. There is a blue notebook with listings for acolytes, communion assistants, greeters and lectors. We also need congregation council members to be the head usher. Thanks!

Sign-up sheets through June 30 are now available



Happening soon:

Movie on the Lawn - Friday, April 26 - 6:30pm / movie following sunset

Ben Boellner concert - Sunday, April 28 - 4:00pm - St. Matthews, Hanover (see p.20 for info)

Abbottstown Food Pantry - Thursday, May 2 - 3:00-5:00pm

Laundry Love - Tuesday, May 7 - 5:30-7:00pm - The Sudz, Spring Forge Plaza

Chancel Choir rehearsal - Wednesday, May 8 - 7:00pm

Please inform the church office of any changes that can be made to the “Prayer Concerns” list: let us know if someone can be removed from the list, or if their status has changed.

Also, please contact us with additions to the list.

Thank you for faithfully praying for our community.

PRAYER CONCERNS

For homebound members:

Erma Becker, Gloria Breighner, Dorothy Hoffheins, Esther Swope, and Tom Baker

For those serving the larger church:

Dr. Stephan J. Swanson and Jodi Lynn Swanson, RN - our missionaries in Tanzania

For persons who are ill or hospitalized:

Sarah Dutrow - in need of healing

Ruth Edwards - having heart problems

James Gallagher - in need of healing

Mary Lawrence - receiving care at home

Fran Luellon—preparing for surgery

Christine Uhercik - preparing for surgery

Dr. Anne Quinn - receiving care for ALS

Bobbie Bevas - recovering from abdominal surgery

Linda Utz - receiving care for pneumonia and kidneys

Scarlette (great granddaughter of Bonnie Staub) - recvng. care from home

Michael Stein (Ruth's Harvest volunteer) - receiving hospice care

Minnie Lawrence (Iva Breighner's sister) - recovering from neck surgery

Iva Breighner - recovering at home from knee replacement surgery (on 4/1)

Lisa Wildasin - receiving treatment for MS



For persons undergoing treatment for Cancer:

Jane Miller (mother of Corey Miller) - receiving care for breast cancer

Polly Stein (Ruth's Harvest volunteer) - receiving care for breast cancer

Rev. Julie Beall (Zwingli UCC) - receiving care for cancer that has returned

Daniel Bowers (nephew of Lorna Runk) - receiving care for prostate cancer

Larry LaRue - receiving care for prostate cancer

Kim H. - receiving care for lymphoma

Audrey Watts - receiving care for cancer

Doug Balko - receiving care for colon cancer

Chuck Gabrielson - receiving care for lung cancer

James Mauk - receiving care for cancer and his heart

Jack Leib - receiving care for cancer at Hershey Medical Center

Irelyn Sprengle is 10 yrs-old and receiving care for kidney cancer at Hershey Medical Center

Wesley Beam is 4 yrs-old and receiving care for DFIG brain cancer

Carol Brown - receiving care for cancer

Patsy Leese - receiving care for cancer

Sharon Ingram - receiving care for cancer

Janet Heflin - receiving care for cancer



Music Notes :

The Junior Choir will rehearse at 8:30am on April 28 and May 12. All singers in 3rd grade and up are welcome to join! Please contact Donna Renaut at (717) 451-0959 with any questions.

The Chancel Choir will be rehearsing at 9:30am on Sundays, April 28 and May 5. We will also rehearse on May 8 at 7:00pm, and May 12 at 9:15am.

The Cherub Choir will rehearse at 8:45am on May 5 and 12 in the choir room. We welcome and encourage all children age 3 through 2nd grade to join our Cherub Choir. Please contact Barbe Sharrer at (717) 752-5737 with any questions.

Music Sunday will be on Sunday, May 12.



April Special Offering Designation - ELCA World Hunger

Working with and through our congregations in the U.S., Lutheran churches around the world, and other partners, [ELCA World Hunger](#) is uniquely positioned to reach communities in need. From health clinics to microloans, community meals to advocacy, your gifts to ELCA World Hunger support sustainable solutions that get at the root causes of hunger and poverty.

50
years



Matthew 25:35 - ...for I was hungry and you gave me food, I was thirsty and you gave me something to drink, I was a stranger and you welcomed me.

FoodPantry

Thursday, May 2, 3:00-5:00pm

FIRST TUESDAY OF THE MONTH- 5:30PM to 7:00PM
SPRING FORGE SHOPPING PLAZA



**LAUNDRY
LOVE**



LOVING PEOPLE ONE LOAD AT A TIME



**Join us on May 7 and help to
spread the love!**



RUTH'S HARVEST - BERMUDIAN SPRINGS ELEMENTARY

(We continue to fill 105 bags each month - Thanks for helping to replenish our food supply)

WE NEED PUDDING CUPS AND CHEF BOYARDEE SINGLE SERVE MEALS



Our final packing date for this school year is

Wednesday, May 22, at 12:30pm

other single-serve items needed:

*Ramen noodle cups, mac-and-cheese cups, juice boxes,
shelf-stable milk boxes, fruit cups, and cereal.*

Please place items on the stage in the Fellowship Hall - thanks!

This Week in Our Neighborhood

One tree was showing its colors...



...while another became firewood and mulch, thanks to Ned Landis and the guys at Asplundh.



Ruth's Harvest volunteers packed 105 bags for Bermudian Springs Elementary School.





St. Matthew

LUTHERAN CHURCH

30 West Chestnut Street ♦ Hanover, Pennsylvania 17331
(717) 637-7101 Fax: (717) 637-4961 info@stmatthlutheran.org www.stmatthlutheran.org

Rev. Kathryn Vitalis Hoffman
Lead Pastor
Tim Peck
Youth Ministry

Rev. Faye Snyder
Visitation Pastor
Melissa Smith
Children and Family Ministry

Rev. Mark Vitalis Hoffman
Interim Teaching Pastor
Debra Smith
Associate Minister of Music

Benjamin Boellner
Minister of Music



April 10, 2024

Dear Music Directors, Pastors and Administrative Assistants,

We want to invite you and your congregation to what promises to be an excellent concert featuring Ben Boellner, The Minister of Music and Organist here at St. Matthew. in Hanover. Tickets for concerts are no longer needed. We are excited and honored to be able to bring fine church musicians and artists to our area. We hope our audience is inspired and uplifted by the music. Thank you for your assistance by sharing this announcement in your church communications in the coming weeks.

Benjamin Boellner,
Minister of Music
St. Matthew Lutheran Church

St. Matthew Lutheran Church to Present Organist, Ben Boellner in Concert

The St. Matthew Lutheran Church Concert Series will present Benjamin Boellner, Minister of Music and Organist here at St. Matthew in concert on Sunday, April 28 at 4:00 p.m. The church is located at 30 W. Chestnut Street, Hanover, PA. Tickets are NOT required for admission. A free-will offering will be taken to assist with the concert costs. The doors open at 3:30 p.m. A reception will follow the program.

Our next concert will be held on Sunday, October 6 at 4:00 p.m. and will feature Dan Miller, world-renowned concert organist from Oregon. Tickets are NOT required for admission. Additional information can be found on the church website - www.stmatthlutheran.org.

The St. Matthew Austin pipe organ with 14,470 pipes is one of the ten largest pipe organs in the world. Please check our website for more information on this glorious instrument.

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Celebrating Love ♦ Serving All