



ST. JOHN'S

EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH

100 E Water Street

Abbottstown, PA 17301

717-259-0796

www.stjohnsatown.com



Introduction

Today is the first of five Sundays with gospel readings from John 6, the first four of which focus on Jesus as bread of life. Today Jesus feeds thousands of people with five loaves and two fish.

What we have, what we bring to Jesus' table, seems like it is not nearly enough to meet all the needs we see around us. But it is not the adequacy of our supplies or our skills that finally makes the difference: it is the power of Jesus working in the littlest and least to transform this world into the world God desires, a world where all the hungry are satisfied.

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.

July 28, 2024

PRELUDE

“Morning Has Broken”

Smith

THE ANNOUNCEMENTS AND WELCOME

THE GATHERING

*CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

All may make the sign of the cross, the sign that is marked at baptism, as we begin.

Blessed be the holy Trinity, ✝ one God, the God of manna, the God of miracles, the God of mercy. **Amen.**

Drawn to Christ and seeking God’s abundance,
let us confess our sin.

Silence is kept for reflection.

God, our provider,
help us.

It is hard to believe there is enough to share.

We question your ways when they differ from the ways of the world in which we live.

We turn to our own understanding rather than trusting in you.

We take offense at your teachings and your ways. Turn us again to you.

Where else can we turn?

Share with us the words of eternal life and feed us for life in the world.

Amen.

Beloved people of God:

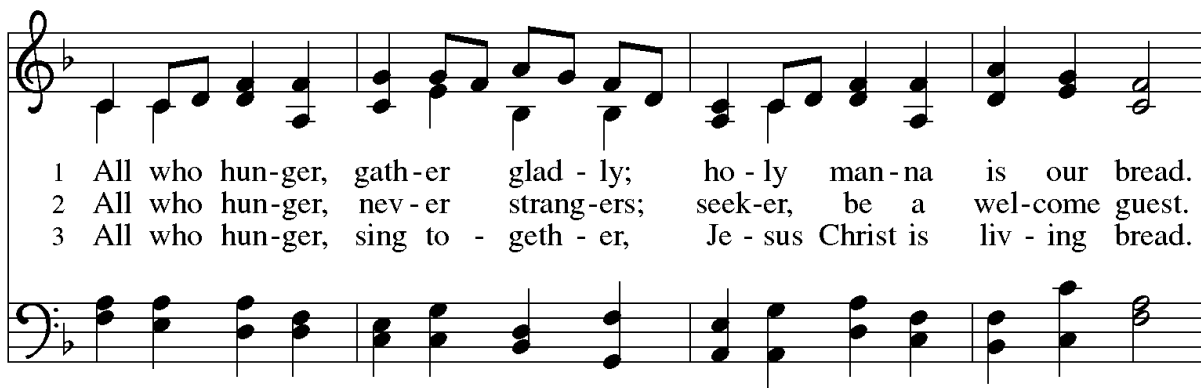
in Jesus, the manna from heaven, we are fed and nourished.

By Jesus, the worker of miracles, there is always more than enough.

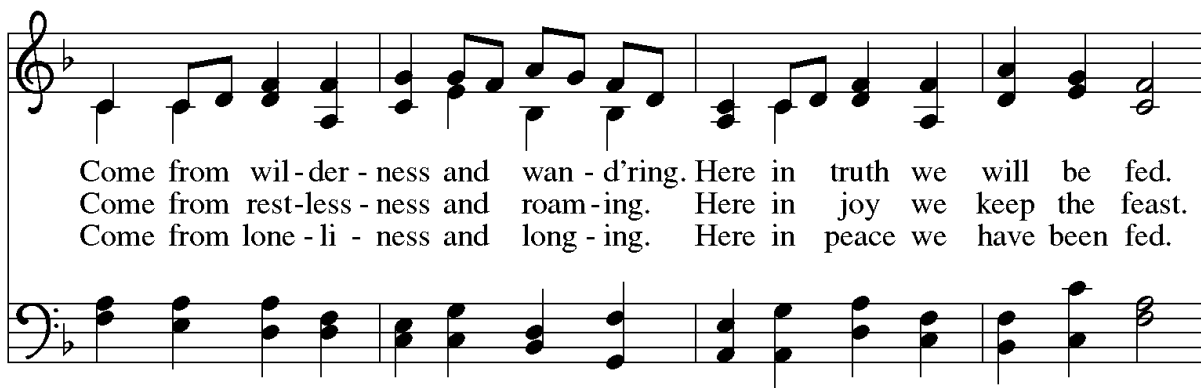
Through Jesus, ✝ the bread of life, we are shown God’s mercy:
we are forgiven and loved into abundant life.

Amen.

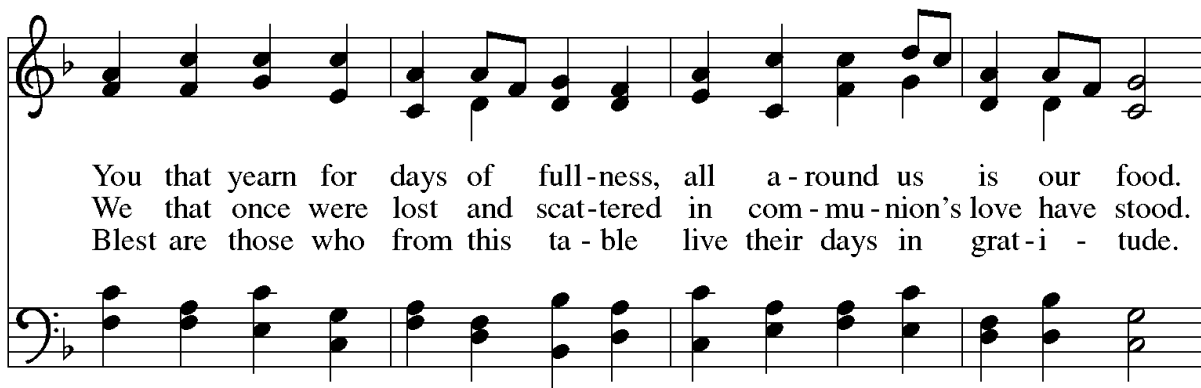




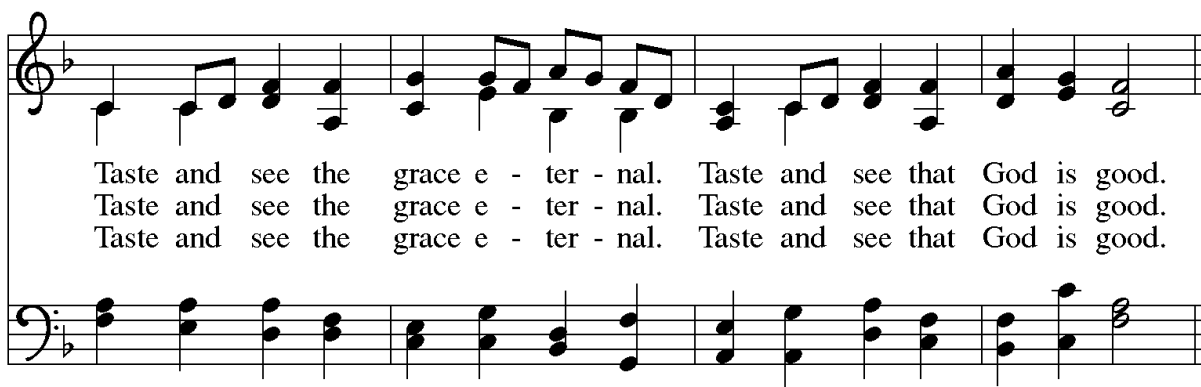
1 All who hun-ger, gath-er glad - ly; ho - ly man - na is our bread.
2 All who hun-ger, nev - er strang-ers; seek-er, be a wel - come guest.
3 All who hun-ger, sing to - geth - er, Je - sus Christ is liv - ing bread.



Come from wil - der - ness and wan - d'ring. Here in truth we will be fed.
Come from rest - less - ness and roam - ing. Here in joy we keep the feast.
Come from lone - li - ness and long - ing. Here in peace we have been fed.



You that yearn for days of full - ness, all a - round us is our food.
We that once were lost and scat - tered in com - mu - nion's love have stood.
Blest are those who from this ta - ble live their days in grat - i - tude.

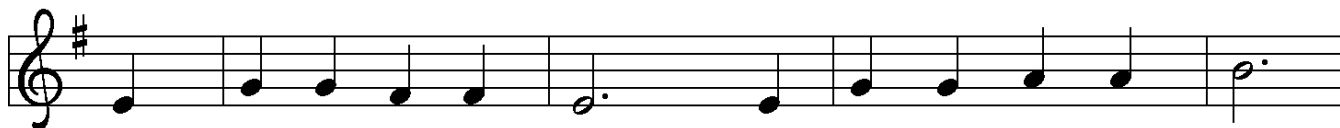


Taste and see the grace e - ter - nal. Taste and see that God is good.
Taste and see the grace e - ter - nal. Taste and see that God is good.
Taste and see the grace e - ter - nal. Taste and see that God is good.

***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



- 1 Have mer - cy on us, Lord, and hear our sol - emn prayer.
- 2 Have mer - cy on us, Christ, and wash a - way our sin.
- 3 Have mer - cy on us, Lord; make sin and shame de - part.



We come to hear your liv - ing word; it saves us from de - spair.
Pour out your grace and make us whole that new life may be - gin.
Re - new us with your sav - ing pow'r; cre - ate in us new hearts!

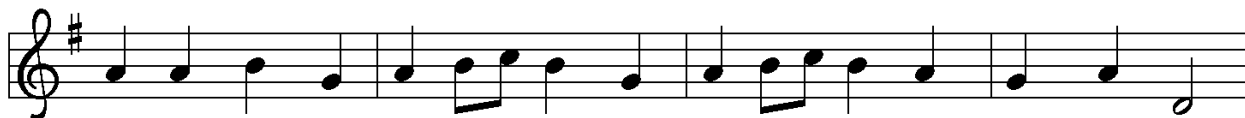
*HYMN OF PRAISE *(sing verse 1)*



- 1 Glo - ry be to God in heav - en; peace, good-will to all the earth.
- 2 Glo - ry be to Christ for - ev - er, Lamb of God and Lord of love.
- 3 Ho - ly One we now ac - claim you; Lord a - lone, to you we call;



Might-y God of all cre - a - tion, Fa - ther of sur - pass - ing worth:
Son of God and gra - cious Sav - ior, you have come from heav'n a - bove;
Ho - ly One in faith we name you, God most high, yet near to all:



we ex - alt you, we a - dore you, we lift high our thanks and praise.
on the cross you died to save us; now you reign at God's right hand.
Je - sus Christ, with God the Spir - it, in the Fa - ther's splen - dor bright.



Saints and an - gels bow be - fore you; here on earth our songs we raise.
Hear our prayer; re - store, for - give us; in your prom - ise firm we stand.
For the peace that we in - her - it, glo - ry be to God on high!

*THE PRAYER OF THE DAY

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

Let us pray... Gracious God, you have placed within the hearts of all your children a longing for your word and a hunger for your truth. Grant that we may know your Son to be the true bread of heaven and share this bread with all the world, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.



Amen.

THE WORD

FIRST READING: 2 Kings 4:42-44

⁴²A man came from Baal-shalishah, bringing food from the first fruits to [Elisha,] the man of God: twenty loaves of barley and fresh ears of grain in his sack. Elisha said, "Give it to the people and let them eat." ⁴³But his servant said, "How can I set this before a hundred people?" So he repeated, "Give it to the people and let them eat, for thus says the LORD, 'They shall eat and have some left.'" ⁴⁴He set it before them, they ate, and had some left, according to the word of the LORD.

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

SECOND READING: Ephesians 3:14-21

¹⁴For this reason I bow my knees before the Father, ¹⁵from whom every family in heaven and on earth takes its name. ¹⁶I pray that, according to the riches of his glory, he may grant that you may be strengthened in your inner being with power through his Spirit, ¹⁷and that Christ may dwell in your hearts through faith, as you are being rooted and grounded in love. ¹⁸I pray that you may have the power to comprehend, with all the saints, what is the breadth and length and height and depth, ¹⁹and to know the love of Christ that surpasses knowledge, so that you may be filled with all the fullness of God.

²⁰Now to him who by the power at work within us is able to accomplish abundantly far more than all we can ask or imagine, ²¹to him be glory in the church and in Christ Jesus to all generations, forever and ever. Amen.

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

*GOSPEL ACCLAMATION



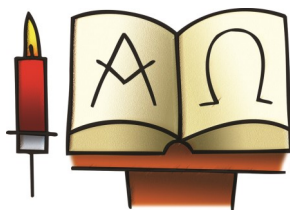
Al - le - lu - ia! Lord and Sav - ior: o - pen now your sav - ing word.



Let it burn like fire with - in us; speak un - til our hearts are stirred.



Al - le - lu - ia! Lord, we sing for the good news that you bring.



*GOSPEL READING: John 6:1-21

The Holy Gospel according to Saint John, the 6th Chapter.

Glory to you, O Lord.

¹Jesus went to the other side of the Sea of Galilee, also called the Sea of Tiberias. ²A large crowd kept following him, because they saw the signs that he was doing for the sick. ³Jesus went up the mountain and sat down there with his disciples. ⁴Now the Passover, the festival of the Jews, was near. ⁵When he looked up and saw a large crowd coming toward him, Jesus said to Philip, "Where are we to buy bread for these people to eat?" ⁶He said this to test him, for he himself knew what he was going to do. ⁷Philip answered him, "Six months' wages would not buy enough bread for each of them to get a little." ⁸One of his disciples, Andrew, Simon Peter's brother, said to him, ⁹"There is a boy here who has five barley loaves and two fish. But what are they among so many people?" ¹⁰Jesus said, "Make the people sit down." Now there was a great deal of grass in the place; so they sat down, about five thousand in all. ¹¹Then Jesus took the loaves, and when he had given thanks, he distributed them to those who were seated; so also the fish, as much as they wanted. *(continued)*

¹²When they were satisfied, he told his disciples, "Gather up the fragments left over, so that nothing may be lost." ¹³So they gathered them up, and from the fragments of the five barley loaves, left by those who had eaten, they filled twelve baskets. ¹⁴When the people saw the sign that he had done, they began to say, "This is indeed the prophet who is to come into the world."

¹⁵When Jesus realized that they were about to come and take him by force to make him king, he withdrew again to the mountain by himself.

¹⁶When evening came, his disciples went down to the sea, ¹⁷got into a boat, and started across the sea to Capernaum. It was now dark, and Jesus had not yet come to them. ¹⁸The sea became rough because a strong wind was blowing. ¹⁹When they had rowed about three or four miles, they saw Jesus walking on the sea and coming near the boat, and they were terrified. ²⁰But he said to them, "It is I; do not be afraid." ²¹Then they wanted to take him into the boat, and immediately the boat reached the land toward which they were going.

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

CHILDREN'S SERMON



Deacon Amy Mambu

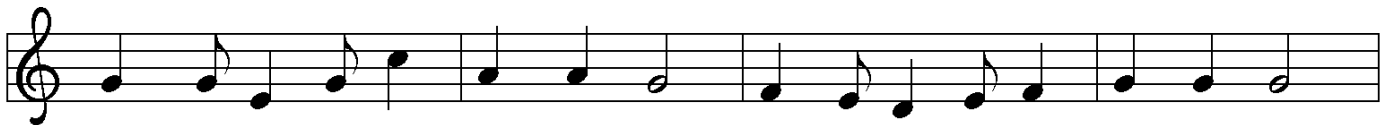
SERMON

Pastor Shawn Berkebile

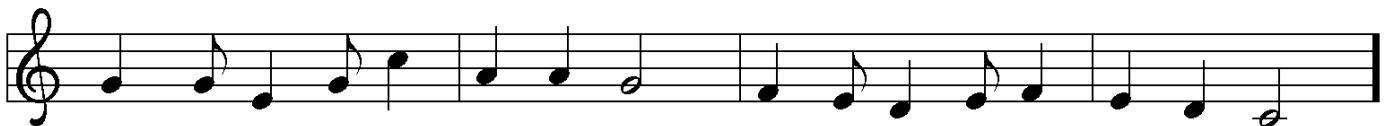
*HYMN OF THE DAY

"Let Us Talents and Tongues Employ"

ELW 674



1 Let us tal - ents and tongues em - ploy, reach - ing out with a shout of joy:
2 Christ is a - ble to make us one, at the ta - ble he sets the tone,
3 Je - sus calls us in, sends us out bear - ing fruit in a world of doubt,



bread is bro - ken, the wine is poured, Christ is spo - ken and seen and heard.
teach - ing peo - ple to live to bless, love in word and in deed ex - press.
gives us love to tell, bread to share: God (Im - man - u - el) ev - 'ry - where!

Refrain



Je - sus lives a - gain, earth can breathe a - gain, pass the Word a - round: loaves a - bound!

***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**

One in the communion of saints and in the power of the Holy Spirit, we join our voices in prayer.

(a brief silence)

In your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

Holy God, holy and merciful: into your outstretched arms we commend ourselves and all for whom we pray, trusting in the one who is the way, the truth, and the life, Jesus Christ our Savior and 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!



PRESENTATION OF THE OFFERING**OFFERTORY RESPONSE****ELW 691***"Accept, O Lord, the Gifts We Bring" vs. 1 & 3*

1 Ac - cept, O Lord, the gifts we bring to
 2 The vines were plant - ed, seeds were sown. They
 3 Our hopes and dreams, our toils and cares we



place up - on your ta - ble. We do not wor - ship
 grew in your good plea - sure. What once was com - mon,
 lift in prayer be - fore you. Lord, by your grace now



as we ought but on - ly as we're a - ble.
 dai - ly food be - comes a ho - ly trea - sure.
 come to us, as hum - bly we a - dore you.

***OFFERING PRAYER**

Let us pray... Blessed are you, O God, maker of all things. Through your goodness you have blessed us with these gifts: our selves, our time, and our possessions. Use us, and what we have gathered, in feeding the world with your love, through the one who gave himself for us, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

Amen.

The Altar Flowers are presented to the Glory of God, and in honor of the 16,000 participants at this year's ELCA Youth Gathering, by a friend.

*THE 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.



*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, 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, with the church on earth and the hosts of heaven, we praise your name and join their unending hymn:



Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow-er 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, 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.

***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**

Christ has set the table with more than enough for all.
Come!

COMMUNION DISTRIBUTION

The body of Christ, given for you.
The blood of Christ, shed for you.

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LAMB OF GOD



1 O Lamb of God, you bear the sin of all the world a - way;
2 O Lamb of God, you bear the sin of all the world a - way;
3 O Lamb of God, you bear the sin of all the world a - way;



you suf-fered death our lives to save: have mer-cy now, we pray.
you set us free from guilt and grave: have mer-cy now, we pray.
e - ter-nal peace with God you made: give us your peace, we pray.

*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... Jesus, Bread of life, we have received from your table more than we could ever ask. As you have nourished us in this meal, now strengthen us to love the world with your own life. In your name we pray.

Amen.

THE SENDING

*BLESSING

The blessing of God, who provides for us, feeds us,
and journeys with us, ✝ be upon us now and forever.

Amen.



1 Praise and thanks-giv - ing, God, we would of - fer for all things
 2 God, bless the la - bor we bring to serve you, that with our
 3 Fa - ther, pro - vid - ing food for your chil - dren, by Wis - dom's
 4 Then will your bless - ing reach ev - 'ry peo - ple, free - ly con -

liv - ing, you have made good: har - vest of sown fields, fruits of the
 neigh - bor we may be fed. Sow - ing or till - ing, we would work
 guid - ing teach us to share one with an - oth - er, so that, re -
 fess - ing your gra - cious hand. Where you are reign - ing, no one will

or - chard, hay from the mown fields, blos - som and wood.
 with you, har - vest - ing, mill - ing for dai - ly bread.
 joic - ing with us, all oth - ers may know your care.
 hun - ger; your love sus - tain - ing show - ers the land.

Text: Albert F. Bayly, 1901–1984, alt.
 Music: BUNESSAN, Gaelic tune; arr. hymnal version
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*THE DISMISSAL

Go in peace. You are the body of Christ.

Thanks be to God. We Will!



POSTLUDE

“With Trumpets and Horns”

Handel/Lorens

Happening soon:

Women’s Choir - Sun, July 28 - rehearse at 8:30am - sing at 9:00am

Youth Gathering Worship Celebration - Sun, Aug 4- 9:00am- Come hear about our great adventure!

Laundry Love - Tue, Aug 6 - 5:30-7:00pm - The Sudz Laundromat - Spring Forge Plaza

Abbottstown Food Pantry - Thur, Aug 8 - 3:00-5:00pm

PAL Lunch team service - Fri, Aug 9 - 9:00am-noon - Hanover Area Council of Churches

Serving St. John’s - July 28

Head Usher Michele Trent
Communion Assistant Barb Colandreo
Acolyte Emma Lewis
Greeters Lewis Family
Lector Allison Lewis

Serving St. John’s - August 4

Head Usher Norbert Mamet
Communion Assistant Gathering Youth
Acolyte Gathering Youth
Greeters Gathering Youth
Lector Norbert Mamet

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 Sept. 29 are now available



We wish to share our deepest sympathies and heart-felt prayers with the family and friends of Wesley Beam, who lost his fight with DFIG brain cancer; and the family and friends of Riley Emig, who lost his life in a motorcycle accident.

You are in our thoughts and prayers during this time of loss and grief.

May our comforting God wrap you in his arms.

PRAYER CONCERNS

For our 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

Christine Uhercik - preparing for surgery

Lisa Wildasin - continuing in her fight with MS

Bobbie Bevas - recovering from abdominal surgery

Linda Utz - receiving care for pneumonia and kidneys

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

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

Jay Bowers (nephew of Lorna Runk) - recovering from appendicitis

Darlene Bowers - in need of healing for her head and jaw

Nancy Emig - recovering from Covid at UPMC Hanover

Jenny Reinhart (sister-in-law of Patty Murren)

Terry Murren

Mary Lawrence - receiving care at home

Dr. Anne Quinn - receiving care for ALS

James Gallagher - in need of healing



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

Gloria Baker - receiving care for liver cancer

Chuck Gabrielson - receiving care for lung cancer

Audrey Watts - receiving care for cancer

Doug Balko - receiving care for colon cancer

Fred Gebhart - receiving care for prostate cancer

James Mauk - receiving care for cancer and his heart

Jack Leib - receiving care for cancer at Wellspan Gettysburg

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

Carol Brown - receiving care for cancer

Kim H. - receiving care for lymphoma

Janet Heflin - receiving care for cancer

Sharon Ingram - receiving care for cancer

Sunday Morning Schedule

8:30am – Sunday morning “Coffee Break” fellowship time

9:00am – In-Person Worship at St. John’s Lutheran Church

9:00am – Remote Worship – You Tube, Facebook, and your telephone (toll free):

You Tube - <https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCLYusK7PV28KOqSVH6xpbFA>

Facebook - <https://www.facebook.com/St.JohnsAbbottstown/live>

PhoneLiveStreaming - dial toll-free from your telephone to listen live at 10:00am, or to hear the previously recorded service at **(833) 435-4458**



ALTAR FLOWERS

We are looking for sponsors for our Altar Flowers. Please see sign-up sheet in the Fellowship Hall or call the office at 717-259-0796 to sponsor your flowers today. Altar flowers cost \$30.

Our next open date is September 1st.

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 August 6th to help
share the love***



Thursday, August 8, 3:00-5:00pm

PAL LUNCH TEAM

***Sharing God’s love
through food and community***

The Hanover Area Council of Churches serves a hot meal 365 days a year to approximately 130 to 200 people. These meals are lovingly made by member congregations from all across the area. St. John’s PAL Team is scheduled to serve our next meal on

Friday, August 9, from 9AM-Noon

If you are interested in joining our PAL team, please contact Larry Welty at (717) 253-4744



Our July Special Offering Designation will go to ELCA World Hunger

Your gifts through our offering envelopes are greatly appreciated



Also, our children, youth - well, anyone - is invited to bring your change to worship on Sunday mornings to help FEED THE PIG and make some joyful noise!

Below is information from ELCA World Hunger.

You can visit them online at:

<https://elca.org/Our-Work/Relief-and-Development/ELCA-World-Hunger>

Ways to Give

Your gifts help our church respond to hunger and poverty through hundreds of projects in more than 60 countries around the world, including the United States. These gifts are brought together with the skills, capacity and resources of local communities to make transformative change.

You can give through your congregation:

Make an online donation (one-time, weekly, or monthly) through St. John's online giving portal ([click here](#)) or go to www.stjohnsatown.com, or make checks payable to St. John's, indicating ELCA World Hunger in the memo line, or by writing your designation on your offering envelope and place your gift in the offering plate.

You can mail your donation:

Make checks payable to ELCA World Hunger

...and mail to:

Evangelical Lutheran Church in America

ELCA Gift Processing Center

P.O. Box 1809

Merrifield, VA 22116-8009



You can give by phone:

Call 800-638-3522 to make a donation with a credit card. Operators are ready to assist you Monday through Friday, 8:00 a.m.-5:00 p.m. Central Time.

