

ST. JOHN'S EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH

120 N. Main St., Lewistown, PA 17044-1719

Main Office: 717-248-8780 Mon., Tues., Thurs. 8:00AM-4:00 PM Fri. 8-Noon
stjohnslewisstown@gmail.com

Interim Pastor: Rev. Allen Hulslander

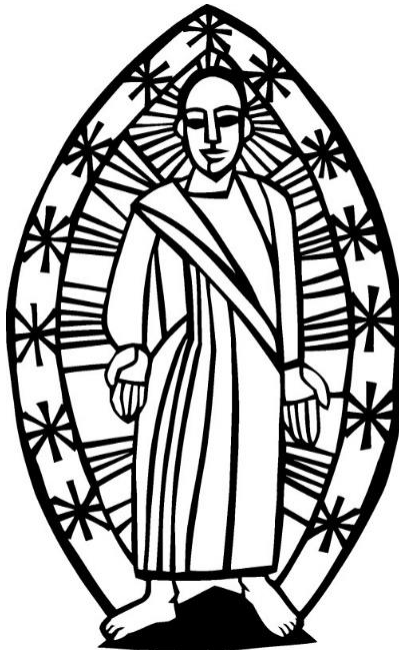
Office Hours: Tues. 9am-Noon and Thurs. 9am-Noon *please call ahead.

Director of Music/Organist: Mrs. Patricia O. Loudenslager

<http://www.stjohnslewisstown.com>

www.facebook.com/St.John'sLutheranChurch,LewistownPA

Sunday, February 11th, 2024, 9:00 AM ✦ *Transfiguration of Our Lord*



INTRODUCTION

The Sundays after Epiphany began with Jesus' baptism and end with three disciples' vision of his transfiguration. In Mark's story of Jesus' baptism, apparently only Jesus sees the Spirit descending and hears the words from heaven. But now Jesus' three closest friends hear the same words naming him God's Beloved. As believers, Paul writes, we are enabled to see the God-light in Jesus' face, because the same God who created light in the first place has shone in our hearts to give us that vision. The light of God's glory in Jesus has enlightened us through baptism and shines in us also for others to see.

WELCOME to worship at St. John's, whether virtually or in person, we are delighted to share this time together. St. John's focus is to share the Good News of Jesus Christ, Strengthen Believers and Care for those in Need.

HOLY COMMUNION will be by 2-line procession through the center aisle. We will celebrate with wafers, wine, and grape juice (please notify Acolyte). Gluten-free wafers are also provided-please tell the Pastor when communing. *If you prefer pre-filled communion cups are available at each entrance.

GIVE TO ST. JOHN'S We are currently not passing the plate; you will find plates located at each entrance. If you would like to give electronically to God's work through St. John's Lutheran Church, visit our website and click on the **E-Giving Tab** to go to a secure form through VANCO. You may also download the VANCO app, VANCO MOBILE and use your existing login information. For New Users: search for St John's Lutheran of Lewistown to find our church. From there you can set up your e-giving how you would like. Look for an information sheet on the church resource table in the Fellowship Hall or ask in the administration office for help. Thank You for your continued support.

OTHER WORSHIP SPACE is available in the fellowship hall, where service can be heard. There is a nursery room (2nd fl. education wing) if needed, as we do not provide nursery care. The service can be heard from this room. Thank you for bringing your children to worship. God's family includes all ages!

IF YOU ARE A VISITOR, we would like to get to know you. Please fill out a visitor's card from the pew rack and place it in the offering plate at entrances or call the church office. May Christ's spirit be with each and every one of us in our congregational life and faith journey.

LARGE PRINT SERVICE BOOKLETS are available, please see a door greeter.

YOUTH SUNDAY!

SERVING TODAY

Pastor – Rev. Allen Hulslander

Cantor- Geneva Kelly

Lay Lector – Nevin Farley, Mara Gallo, Mina Phillips

Ushers – Dorian, Jameson, and Leif Phillips

Communion Assistants – Dennis Noble-crucifer, Norma Fisher, Gisele Miller

Crucifer – Dennis Noble

Acolytes – Mina Phillips, Jameson Phillips

Altar Guild Volunteers – Shannen Gramley, Joyce Tanner, Brenda Reeder

Media & Production – Grant and Carrie Stufft, Nancy Ressler, and Mary Barr

PRELUDE "How Majestic Is Your Name" Michael W. Smith, 1981 Meadowgreen Music Co.
Praise and Worship Youth Choir

WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS

GATHERING

*Please stand as you are able. Congregational responses are in **Bold**.
Red Hymnal (ELW) will be used for parts of the service.*

TEMPLE TALK

Sue Phillips

Confession and Forgiveness

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,
creator of darkness and light,
word of truth,
wind sweeping over the waters.

Amen.

Let us confess our sin in the presence of God and of one another.

Silence is kept for reflection.

God, our rock and refuge,

we pour out our hearts before you.

We have known you but have not always loved you.

**We have wounded one another
and sinned against you.**

**We have not always recognized the Holy Spirit
dwelling in each of us.**

Remember your covenant.

Renew your creation.

Restore us,

that we might proclaim your good news to all.

Amen.

The voice of the Lord is upon the waters.

God has spoken:

The time of grace is now.

In Jesus, the reign of God has come near.

By the authority of † Jesus Christ,
your sins are forgiven.

You are God's beloved. **Amen.**

PROCESSIONAL HYMN

ELW #315 How Good, Lord, to Be Here”

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.

Kyrie

ELW pg. #138 Setting 3

CANTICLE OF PRAISE (Congregation)



1 All glo - ry be to God on high, and peace to earth be
2 Lord Je - sus Christ, the on - ly Son of God, cre - a - tion's
3 To you a - lone, O God, we cry, the Ho - ly One we



giv - en! Let an - gels sing, let all re - ply; good -
au - thor, O Lamb of God, your death a - lone takes
name you; for you a - lone are God most high, one



will breaks forth from heav - en! Lord God Al - might - y,
sin a - way for - ev - er. Stretch out your arms to
liv - ing God we claim you: we wor - ship you, Lord



heav - en's king, we wor - ship you, our thanks we sing, we
ev - 'ry land, and, as you reign at God's right hand, re -
Je - sus Christ, with God the Spir - it ev - er blest, in



praise you for your glo - ry.
ceive our prayer; have mer - cy.
God the Fa - ther's glo - ry. A - men.

PRAYER OF THE DAY

Almighty God, the resplendent light of your truth shines from the mountaintop into our hearts. Transfigure us by your beloved Son, and illumine the world with your image, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

Amen.

WORD

First Reading: 2 Kings 2:1-12

Today's reading centers on the transfer of power and authority from the prophet Elijah to Elisha. Their travels, which retrace the path of Joshua back to Moab (the place where Moses died) and the parting of the waters, demonstrate that Elisha and Elijah are legitimate successors of the great prophet Moses.

¹Now when the LORD was about to take Elijah up to heaven by a whirlwind, Elijah and Elisha were on their way from Gilgal. ²Elijah said to Elisha, "Stay here; for the LORD has sent me as far as Bethel." But Elisha said, "As the LORD lives, and as you yourself live, I will not leave you." So they went down to Bethel. ³The company of prophets who were in Bethel came out to Elisha, and said to him, "Do you know that today the LORD will take your master away from you?" And he said, "Yes, I know; keep silent."

⁴Elijah said to him, "Elisha, stay here; for the LORD has sent me to Jericho." But he said, "As the LORD lives, and as you yourself live, I will not leave you." So they came to Jericho. ⁵The company of prophets who were at Jericho drew near to Elisha, and said to him, "Do you know that today the LORD will take your master away from you?" And he answered, "Yes, I know; be silent."

⁶Then Elijah said to him, "Stay here; for the LORD has sent me to the Jordan." But he said, "As the LORD lives, and as you yourself live, I will not leave you." So the two of them went on. ⁷Fifty men of the company of prophets also went, and stood at some distance from them, as they both were standing by the Jordan. ⁸Then Elijah took his mantle and rolled it up, and struck the water; the water was parted to the one side and to the other, until the two of them crossed on dry ground.

⁹When they had crossed, Elijah said to Elisha, "Tell me what I may do for you, before I am taken from you." Elisha said, "Please let me inherit a double share of your spirit." ¹⁰He responded, "You have asked a hard thing; yet, if you see me as I am being taken from you, it will be granted you; if not, it will not." ¹¹As they continued walking and talking, a chariot of fire and horses of fire separated the two of them, and Elijah ascended in a whirlwind into heaven. ¹²Elisha kept watching and crying out, "Father, father! The chariots of Israel and its horsemen!" But when he could no longer see him, he grasped his own clothes and tore them in two pieces.

Reader ends with: **“The Word of the Lord.”**

Congregation responds: **“Thanks be to God.”**

Psalm: Psalm 50:1-6

Out of Zion, perfect in beauty, God shines forth in glory. (Ps. 50:2)

¹The mighty one, God the LORD, has spoken;
calling the earth from the rising of the sun to its setting.

²**Out of Zion, perfect in its beauty,
God shines forth in glory.**

³Our God will come and will not keep silence;
with a consuming flame before, and round about a raging storm.

⁴**God calls the heavens and the earth from above
to witness the judgment of the people.**

⁵“Gather before me my loyal followers,
those who have made a covenant with me and sealed it with sacrifice.”

⁶**The heavens declare the rightness of God’s cause,
for it is God who is judge.**

Second Reading: 2 Corinthians 4:3-6

The spotlight of Christian ministry is not on the people who carry out ministry but on the Lord Jesus Christ. Just as God made light shine at creation, God makes the light of Jesus Christ shine in our lives through Christian ministry.

³Even if our gospel is veiled, it is veiled to those who are perishing. ⁴In their case the god of this world has blinded the minds of the unbelievers, to keep them from seeing the light of the gospel of the glory of Christ, who is the image of God. ⁵For we do not proclaim ourselves; we proclaim Jesus Christ as Lord and ourselves as your slaves for Jesus’ sake. ⁶For it is the God who said, “Let light shine out of darkness,” who has shone in our hearts to give the light of the knowledge of the glory of God in the face of Jesus Christ.

Reader ends with: **“The Word of the Lord.”**

Congregation responds: **“Thanks be to God.”**

Special Music

“Come to the Mountain” Pamela L. Hughes, 1995 living the Good News Inc.

Celeste Choir

CHILDRNS MESSAGE *all children are invited forward.*

Sue Phillips

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION *Please stand as you are able.*

Al - le - lu - ia. Lord, to whom shall we go? You have the

words of e - ter - nal life. Al - le - lu - ia. Al - le - lu - ia.

The Holy Gospel according to Mark, the 9th Chapter.

Glory to you, O Lord.

Gospel: Mark 9:2-9

Mark's gospel presents the transfiguration as a preview of what would become apparent to Jesus' followers after he rose from the dead. Confused disciples are given a vision of God's glory manifest in the beloved Son.

²Six days later, Jesus took with him Peter and James and John, and led them up a high mountain apart, by themselves. And he was transfigured before them, ³and his clothes became dazzling white, such as no one on earth could bleach them. ⁴And there appeared to them Elijah with Moses, who were talking with Jesus. ⁵Then Peter said to Jesus, "Rabbi, it is good for us to be here; let us make three dwellings, one for you, one for Moses, and one for Elijah." ⁶He did not know what to say, for they were terrified. ⁷Then a cloud overshadowed them, and from the cloud there came a voice, "This is my Son, the Beloved; listen to him!" ⁸Suddenly when they looked around, they saw no one with them anymore, but only Jesus.

⁹As they were coming down the mountain, he ordered them to tell no one about what they had seen, until after the Son of Man had risen from the dead.

After the reading ...

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

Please be seated.

Sermon

Pastor Allen

Apostles' Creed

Please stand as you are able.

**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 into hell.
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.**

Keep In Prayer: Deb Montgomery,
Patty Wagner, Steve & Vicki Yohn,
Tracy Loucks, Jack Stull, Toby
Sweigart, and the Call Committee.

*To have someone added to the
Prayer Guide-with their permission-
please contact the church office.

PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

The petitions ends with: "God of Grace"

And the Congregational response is:

"receive our prayer"

SHARING of GOD'S PEACE


Share the Peace in a safe manner.

Simply say the words. *"Peace be with You."*

"And also with you."

MEAL *Please continue to stand.*

Let the Vineyards Be Fruitful *Offering Song*



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 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

Blessed are you, Holy One,
for all good things come from you.
In bread and cup, you open heaven to us.
Meet us at this table,
that we receive what we seek
and follow your Son, Jesus,
in whose name we pray.
Amen.

GREAT THANKSGIVING (spoken)

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.**

COMMUNION PREFACE

It is indeed right, our duty, and our joy, that we....
and join their unending hymn (sung):

Holy, Holy, Holy

ELW pg.# 144 Setting 3

THANKSGIVING AT THE TABLE

The presiding minister continues:

In the night in which he was betrayed, our lord Jesus.....

Again, after supper, he took the cup, gave thanks,

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.

For as often as we eat of this bread and drink from this cup, we proclaim the Lord's death until he comes.

C: Christ has died. Christ is risen. Christ will come again.

With this bread and cup.....We look with hope for his coming.

C: Come, Lord Jesus.

Holy God, we long for your Spirit. Come among.....Bring the gift of peace on earth.

C: Come, Holy Spirit.

All praise and glory are yours, Holy One.....one God, now and forever.

Amen.

The Lord's Prayer (Inside cover of Hymnal)

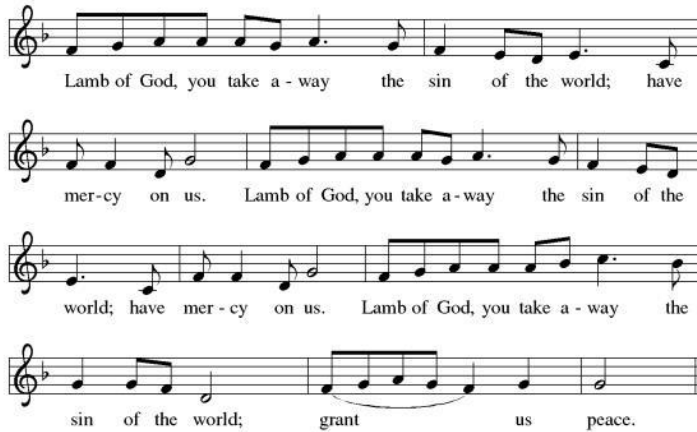
Our Father, which art in heaven, hallowed be thy name, thy kingdom come, thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven.

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

At Jesus' table, heaven and earth are joined as one.
Come and see.

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.

COMMUNION

All who are baptized are invited to come forward as directed from the front through the middle aisle. Children, if not already communing, may be brought forward for a blessing from the Pastor. Please hold both hands out to receive the wafer, then choose a cup from the Acolyte. Please dispose in a near waste basket.

Communion Music

“When Morning Guilds the Skies” Joseph Barnby, Arr. Victor Labenske, 2000 Pilot Point Music

“Holy Ground” Geron Davis, Arr. Mark Hayes, 1992 Medowgreen Music Co.

‘Shine, Jesus Shine” Graham Kendrick, arr. Mark Hayes, 1987 Make Way Music

POST-COMMUNION BLESSING The body and the blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen you and keep you in his grace.

Amen.

POST-COMMUNION PRAYER

Giver of every gift,
Christ's body is our food, and we are Christ's body.
Raise us to life by your power
for the benefit of all and to your glory,
now and forever.

Amen.

CONSECRATION OF COMMUNION VESSELS

SENDING

BLESSING

God who names you,
Christ who claims you,
and the Holy Spirit who dwells in you,
bless you and remain with you always.

Amen.

SENDING HYMN

ELW #715 "Christ, Be, Our Light"

Silent Meditation

DISMISSAL

Go in peace. You are God's beloved.

Thanks be to God.

POSTLUDE "Oh, Wondrous Image, Vision Fair" (#316 in our Hymnal)

From Sundays and Seasons.com. Copyright © 2023 Augsburg Fortress. All rights reserved. Reprinted by permission under Augsburg Fortress Liturgies Annual License. New Revised Standard Version Bible, Copyright © 1989, Division of Christian Education of the National Council of the Churches of Christ in the United States of America. Used by permission. All rights reserved. Revised Common Lectionary, Copyright © 1992 Consultation on Common Texts, admin Augsburg Fortress. Used by permission.

NOTICE: Audio/Video recording When you enter a St. John's Evangelical Lutheran worship service/event, you will be entering an area where photography, video and audio recording may occur. Please see notes at entrances for further details. Live-Streaming will continue as needed- if you are behind camera, you will not be on camera.

DEDICATIONS

THE ALTAR FLOWERS are presented by Jennie McCardle in memory of William Gregg and in honor of Libby McCardle McDubing on this, the occasion of both their birthdays.

TODAY'S BULLETINS are presented by Jon and Patty Farley in honor of loved ones.

THIS WEEK'S ETERNAL CANDLE BURNS in honor of Rex and Ruth Reish given by Darla Reish-Shawver.

THE COMMUNION WINE this morning is given by Kathy Limes in memory of Marge and Harry Stumpff.

ST. JOHN'S NEWS

SWEET HEARTS SOCIAL HOUR is this morning after Worship. Please join us in the social hall. Bring your favorite sweet (i.e., Candy, cookies, desert fruit etc.) Drinks will be provided. Let's brighten up the day by wearing Valentine's Day apparel and show our love of God and each other. Questions see Jennifer Blessing.

PASTOR ALLEN will be out of the office on Thursday February 15th, 2024.

DESIGNATED OFFERINGS 1st Quarter Special Offering-Central Pa. World Hunger Association Meat Canning Project (Max Hook past member). Lenten Special Offering-Rainbow Summer. Easter Special Offering-St. John's Organ refurbishment fund.

40 DAYS-40 ITEMS a Lenten Challenge. Instead of giving up something for Lent – the 40 days & 40 items challenge is a way of giving back. Each day of Lent remove one item you do not wear anymore. At the end of Lent bring into the Church after Easter & put in the Lobby. These items will be taken to Big Valley Thrift & Gift and Abundant Blessings. If you have any questions please see Kathy Limes.

GODLY PLAY SUNDAY SCHOOL (for all ages) is an amazing experience where scriptures and parables "come alive". Godly Play dates are as follows: 03/10, 04/14, 05/12. All are welcome!

THE LUMINA CENTER are selling their yearly Community Restaurant Discount Cards. The cost is \$10.00, and discounts apply to 16 local restaurants in the community. Please see Steve Burk, Mary Barr or the SJLC Office to purchase.

WEATHER ALERT If the Mifflin County School District is delayed, closed, or closing due to snow and ice, the SJLC Office and all activities in the church facility will be postponed or cancelled.

COMMITTEES/ORGANIZATIONS

NO CHIOR PRACTICE on Wednesday February 14th, 2024.

PROPERTY COMMITTEE There will be a property committee meeting on Tuesday evening February 13th at 6:30 pm in the church conference room. All existing committee members and anyone wishing to become a committee member are urged to attend.

THE BARNABAS BROTHERS will resume regular breakfast meetings on Saturday February 17th, 2024, at 8am at the Church Fellowship Hall. Guest Speaker will be Mara Gallo, Church Member and Mifflin County Lacrosse Player who was selected to represent the USA in Barcelona, Spain this summer. Mara was selected as one of 24 Lacrosse players to represent the USA this summer. All Men of the Church and Senior High Boys are encouraged to attend the breakfast that includes a King's Breakfast, and Christian Fellowship. Please contact Steve Burk, at 717-250-7410, with any questions or concerns. Thank you respectfully, Steve Burk.

WELCA The Women's Tea Meeting will be on Sunday February 18th, 2024, at 10:00 am

BARNABAS BROTHERS HOAGIE SALE Friday March 1st, 2024. Pick-up orders 9:00am. All orders are due Sunday February 25th, 2024.

THE COUNCIL MEETING will be on **Tuesday** February 27th, 2024, at 6:30pm.

MOTHER' S HUBBARD CUPBOARD for February are tissues, toilet paper, paper towels, & tea bags.

PIECEMAKERS QUILTING GROUP Needs sheets (slightly used ok) deliver to quilt room.

Worship SCHEDULE

February 14 [Ash Wednesday] 7:00pm Worship

February 18 [First Sunday in Lent] 9:00am Worship, 10:15am Sunday School

February 25 [Second Sunday in Lent] 9:00am Worship, 10:15am Sunday School

March 3 [Third Sunday in Lent] 9:00am Worship, 10:15am Sunday School

March 10 [Fourth Sunday in Lent] 9:00am Worship, 10:15 Sunday School/Godly Play

Meetings (Please see above for details)

02/13 Thu. Property Committee Meeting 6:30 pm

02/17 Sat. Barnabas Brothers Breakfast at 8:00am

02/18 Sun. WELCA Tea Meeting at 10:00am

02/27 Tue. Council Meeting at 6:30pm

02/21,02/28 Wed. Choir Practice.

Reminders for February

Acolytes – Mina Phillips, Jameson Phillips

Altar Guild Volunteers – Shaneen Gramley, Joyce Tanner, Brenda Reeder

Communion Assistants – Dennis Noble-crucifer, Norma Fisher, Gisele Miller

Crucifer – Dennis Noble

Ushers – Tom Beaver – head usher, Melissa Rosenberry, Jim Rosenberry

Money Counters – Terri Limes, Mary Barr

Reminders for March

Acolytes – Geneva Kelly, Ava Kelly

Altar Guild Volunteers – Terri Limes, Elaine Crossgrove, Lavonne Beers

Communion Assistants – Justice Mills-crucifer, David Phillips, Hillary Worley-book bearer

Crucifer – Justice Mills

Ushers – Steve Burk-head usher, Carrie Thierwechter, Andrew Thierwechter

Money Counters – Robyn Mertz, Genevieve McCardle

Next Sunday Readings: *Genesis, 9:8-17, Psalm 25:1-10, 1 Peter 3:18-22, Mark 1:9-15*