

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

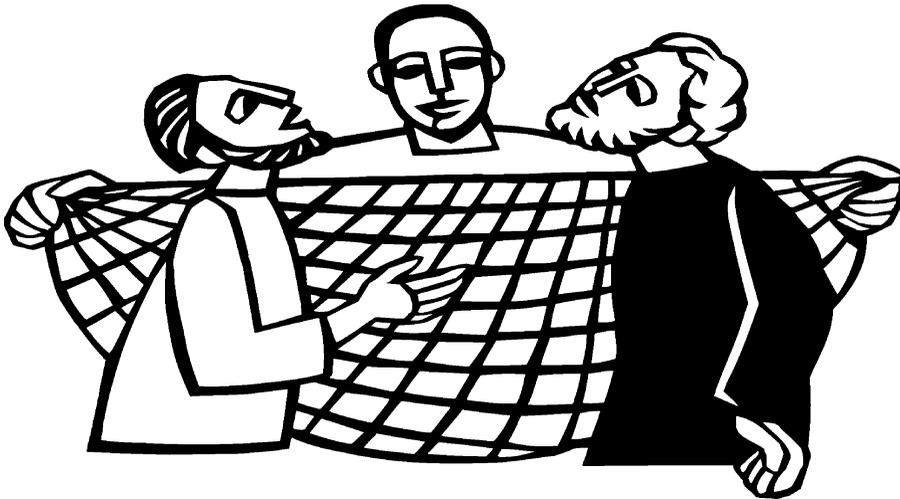
Office Hours: Tues. 9am-Noon and Thurs. 9am-Noon *please call ahead

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

<http://www.stjohnslewisstown.com>

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

Sunday, January 22, 2023 9:00 AM ✦ 3rd Sunday after Epiphany / Setting 5



Introduction to the Day

Jesus begins his public ministry by calling fishers to leave their nets and follow him. In Jesus the kingdom of God has come near. We who have walked in darkness have seen a great light. We see this light most profoundly in the cross—as God suffers with us and all who are oppressed by sickness, sin, or evil. Light dawns for us as we gather around the word, the font, and the holy table. We are then sent to share the good news that others may be “caught” in the net of God’s grace and mercy.

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.

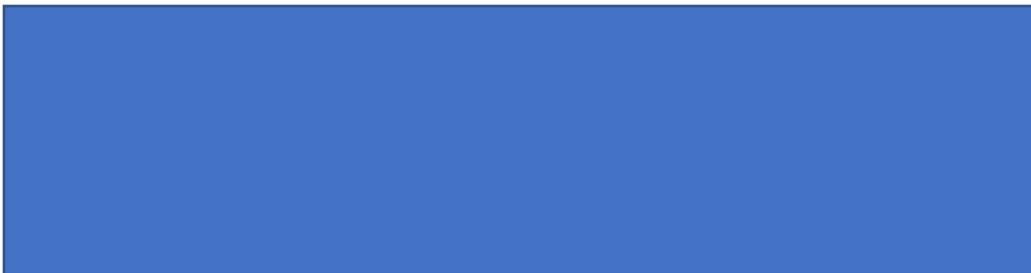
HOLY COMMUNION will be by 2-line procession through the center aisle. We will celebrate with wafers, wine and grape juice (please notify Acolyte). Gluten-free wafers are also provided-please tell the Pastor when communing. *If you prefer to use Pre-filled communion cups they are available at each entrance.

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 app, *VANCO MOBILE* and use your existing login information or provide new. For New Users: search for St Johns Lutheran of Lewistown to find our church. From there you can setup your e-giving how you would like. Look for an information sheet on the church resource table in the Fellowship Hall or ask the office admin. 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. 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.



PRELUDE 9:00 AM

“The Lord Is My Light and My Salvation” Frances Allitsen

WELCOME & ANNOUCEMENTS

GATHERING

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

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, who makes all things new, whose mercy endures forever. **Amen.**

Trusting in God's mercy, let us confess our sin.

Silence is kept for reflection.

Holy One, source of our renewal,

we confess that we are wrapped up in sin, and cannot free ourselves.

We have not practiced your righteousness. Our hearts have turned away from you. For the sake of the world you so love, forgive us, that we may be reconciled to one another for the glory of your holy name. Amen.

Thus says our God:

"The former things have come to pass and new things I now declare. "God's mercy makes us new. We are forgiven in the name of † Christ our Savior.

Amen.

GATHERING HYMN

ELW #696 "Jesus Calls Us; O'er the Tumult."

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. 156 Setting 5

The Kyrie may be sung in dialogue between an assisting minister/cantor and the assembly.

CANTICLE OF PRAISE

Glory to God

ELW pg. 159 Setting 5

PRAYER OF THE DAY

WORD

First Reading – Isaiah 9:1-4

¹There will be no gloom for those who were in anguish. In the former time [the LORD] brought into contempt the land of Zebulun and the land of Naphtali, but in the latter time he will make glorious the way of the sea, the land beyond the Jordan, Galilee of the nations.

²The people who walked in darkness
have seen a great light;
those who lived in a land of deep darkness—
on them light has shined.

³You have multiplied the nation,
you have increased its joy;
they rejoice before you
as with joy at the harvest,
as people exult when dividing plunder.

⁴For the yoke of their burden,
and the bar across their shoulders,
the rod of their oppressor,
you have broken as on the day of Midian.

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

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

Psalm: Psalm 27:1, 4-9 *Read responsively by whole verse.*

¹The LORD is my light and my salvation; whom then | shall I fear?
The LORD is the stronghold of my life; of whom shall I | be afraid?

⁴**One thing I ask of the LORD; one | thing I seek;**
that I may dwell in the house of the LORD all the days of my life; to gaze
upon the beauty of the LORD and to seek God | in the temple.

⁵For in the day of trouble God will | give me shelter,
hide me in the hidden places of the sanctuary, and raise me high up- | on a

rock.

⁶Even now my head is lifted up above my enemies | who surround me.

Therefore I will offer sacrifice in the sanctuary, sacrifices of rejoicing; I will sing and make music | to the LORD.

⁷Hear my voice, O LORD, | when I call;
have mercy on me and | answer me.

⁸My heart speaks your message— | “Seek my face.”

Your face, O LORD, | I will seek.

⁹Hide not your face from me, turn not away from your ser- | vant in anger.

Cast me not away—you have been my helper; forsake me not, O God of | my salvation.

Second Reading –1 Corinthians 1:10-18

¹⁰Now I appeal to you, brothers and sisters, by the name of our Lord Jesus Christ, that all of you be in agreement and that there be no divisions among you, but that you be united in the same mind and the same purpose. ¹¹For it has been reported to me by Chloe’s people that there are quarrels among you, my brothers and sisters. ¹²What I mean is that each of you says, “I belong to Paul,” or “I belong to Apollos,” or “I belong to Cephas,” or “I belong to Christ.” ¹³Has Christ been divided? Was Paul crucified for you? Or were you baptized in the name of Paul? ¹⁴I thank God that I baptized none of you except Crispus and Gaius, ¹⁵so that no one can say that you were baptized in my name. ¹⁶(I did baptize also the household of Stephanas; beyond that, I do not know whether I baptized anyone else.) ¹⁷For Christ did not send me to baptize but to proclaim the gospel, and not with eloquent wisdom, so that the cross of Christ might not be emptied of its power.

¹⁸For the message about the cross is foolishness to those who are perishing, but to us who are being saved it is the power of God.

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

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

CHILDRENS MESSAGE *all children are invited forward*

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Please stand as you are able

Al-le-lu - ia, al - le-lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia. *Repeat alleluia*

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

The Holy Gospel according to Luke, the 3rd Chapter.

Glory to you, O Lord.

Gospel: Matthew 4:12-23

Jesus begins his public ministry shortly after John the Baptist is imprisoned by Herod. He proclaims the nearness of God's reign and calls four fishermen to be his first disciples.

¹²Now when Jesus heard that John had been arrested, he withdrew to Galilee. ¹³He left Nazareth and made his home in Capernaum by the sea, in the territory of Zebulun and Naphtali, ¹⁴so that what had been spoken through the prophet Isaiah might be fulfilled:

¹⁵"Land of Zebulun, land of Naphtali,

on the road by the sea, across the Jordan, Galilee of the Gentiles—

¹⁶the people who sat in darkness

have seen a great light,

and for those who sat in the region and shadow of death

light has dawned."

¹⁷From that time Jesus began to proclaim, "Repent, for the kingdom of heaven has come near."

¹⁸As he walked by the Sea of Galilee, he saw two brothers, Simon, who is called Peter, and Andrew his brother, casting a net into the sea—for they were fishermen. ¹⁹And he said to them, "Follow me, and I will make you fish for people." ²⁰Immediately they left their nets and followed him. ²¹As he went from there, he saw two other brothers, James son of Zebedee and his brother John, in the boat with their father Zebedee, mending their nets, and he called them. ²²Immediately they left the boat and their father, and followed him.

²³Jesus went throughout Galilee, teaching in their synagogues and proclaiming the good news of the kingdom and curing every disease and every sickness among the people.

After the reading ...

The Gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, O Christ.

Please be seated.

Sermon

Pastor Allen

The Apostles' Creed

Please stand as you are able. Together we confess:

**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

The petitions end: "God of Grace";

And the Congregational response is:

"hear 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



bles-sing. 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

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. 162 setting 5

The presiding minister continues:

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

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.

Remembering, therefore, his salutary command,....

To you, O God, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, be all honor and glory in your holy church, now and forever.

Amen.

The Lord's Prayer (sung)

**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

Come to God's table. There is a place for you and enough for all.

Lamb of God

ELW pg. 154 setting 4

Communion

*If you feel comfortable at this time, 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 an Acolyte will hand you a cup. Please dispose in a near waste basket.



“ Have Faith in God, My Heart with “O, For a Faith That Will Not Shrink”

Bryn Austin Rees and John B. Dykes, Arr. Melody Bober

“ I know Whom I Have Believed” Daniel W. Whittle”, Arr. Melody Bober

“Thy Strong Word” John Zundel, Arr. Melody Bober (All 3 songs Alfred Music Pub.)

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

We give you thanks, gracious God, for we have feasted on the abundance of your house. Send us to bring good news and to proclaim your favor to all, strengthened with the richness of your grace in your Son, Jesus Christ. **Amen**

SENDING

Blessing

God, who leads you in pathways of righteousness, who rejoices over you, and who calls you by name, † bless your going out and your coming in, today and forever.
Amen.

SENDING HYMN

ELW #798 “Will You Come and Follow and Me”

Silent Meditation

Dismissal

Go with Christ into a weary world. Share the good news. **Thanks be to God.**

Postlude

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

TODAY'S BULLETINS are presented by Mark and Nikki Hilday in honor of their family.

THE ALTAR FLOWERS are given in loving memory of Dick Fisher, from the Fisher family.

THIS WEEK'S ETERNAL CANDLE burns in honor of Norma Fisher's 11 Great-grandchildren.

THE COMMUNION WINE this morning is given by Kathy Limes in memory of Ed and Helen Welch.

ST. JOHN'S NEWS

2023 BUDGET is available for viewing. Let the Office Administrator, know if you would like a copy mailed or emailed to you.

2022 ANNUAL MEETING OF THE CONGREGATION will take place Sunday, January 22nd following worship (no Sunday School). If inclement weather that day, please be advised the meeting will be Sunday February 5th, 2023. Voting member participation is encouraged to elect Council members & approve the 2023 Budget. A Voting Member according to the Constitution are confirmed members who have communed in this congregation and have made a contribution of record during the current or preceding calendar year.

PASTOR ALLEN Pastor Allen will be on vacation January 24th until Feb. 17th. Rev. Charles Hershberger will be on call for pastoral needs. Sunday Jan. 29th WELCA will be doing the service with guest leader Debra Hackenberger; Sun. Feb. 5th Pastor Charlie will lead the service and install council members; and Feb. 12th Steve Rogers will lead worship.”

WEATHER ALERT If the Mifflin County School District is closed or closing due to snow and ice, the Church Office and any activities to be held in the church facility for the remainder of the day and evening are cancelled or postponed.

CD/DVD MINISTRY If you know someone who would like a recording of services going forward during this time, please call the church office. Worship is also being live-streamed/ uploaded to our website, www.stjohnslewistown.com. Click the Archive link to view past services. *We are offering a limited number of portable DVD players.

1st QUARTER SPECIAL OFFERING has been designated to the Central PA World Hunger Association meat canning project. If anyone would like to help with this project in early February (7-10th) you may contact, Jessie Diem at (717)348-9577.

COMMUNITY OUTREACH

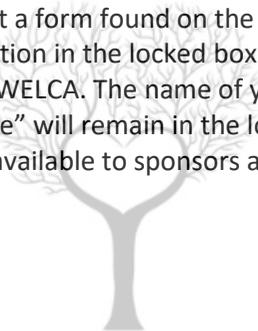


A HAM SANDWICH SALE, to benefit the LUMINA Center, will take place on Friday, February 10th. Cost is \$4.00 each. Orders must be placed by Monday February 6th. Please sign up on one of the order sheets, located throughout the church, or see Mary Barr.

COMMITTEES/ORGANIZATIONS

A “Tree of Love” has been erected in the lobby. It has been decorated with lights, ribbons, and hearts. However, something is missing! The hearts need sponsors.

To become a heart sponsor, fill out a form found on the table in the lobby. Then put the completed form along with a donation in the locked box on the table in the lobby. Please make checks payable to St. John’s WELCA. The name of your loved one will be placed on a heart on the tree. The “Tree of Love” will remain in the lobby until February 14, 2023. The hearts will be available to sponsors as a keepsake.



The “Tree of Love” is a tangible reminder of God’s love for us and our love for each other during these challenging times. The donations will be used to spread God’s love through WELCA service projects

“And now these three remain, faith, hope and love. But the greatest of these is love”
1Corinthians 13:13.

THE UPPER SUSQUEHANNA SYNOD ASSEMBLY will be held on June 16-17, 2023, at Susquehanna University. Voting members from each congregation will need to be identified by mid-February. Serve your church by being part of this historical event! Talk to your pastor about being your congregation’s representative.

CAMP MT. LUTHER Camperson Meeting is scheduled for February 7 from 3-4 p.m. A camperson is a liaison between camp and our congregation. Each synod congregation is asked to send a representative to this event to learn more about Mount Luther. Campersons will get Camel Bucks to the camp store for all those from their church who attend!

CAMP MOUNT LUTHER SUNDAY Transfiguration Sunday, February 19th this year, has been designated by the Upper Susquehanna Synod Council to be recognized as “Mount Luther Sunday” to help promote outdoor ministries in the synod. Activities and events will be offered around this time.

MOTHER’S HUBBARD CUPBOARD In 2023 Mission and Outreach will collect specific items every month for Mother’s Hubbard Cupboard. Tissues and toilet paper are the items for January and February. Please put your donations in the blue tub located in the lobby. Thanks for your ongoing support.

MEET and EAT: Meet and Eat will be dining at the Burnham OIP on Tuesday February 7th at 12:00 noon. All women are welcome. Please join us. Please contact Jennie McCardle with any questions.

Worship SCHEDULE

Jan 22 (Epiphany 3) 9:00 am Worship, **Annual Meeting of the Congregation**
-NO Sunday School

Jan. 29 (Epiphany 4) WELCA 9:00 am Worship. Guest Leader Debra Hackenberger, 10:15am Sunday School

Feb 5 (Epiphany 5) 9:00 am Worship Pastor Charlie will lead the service (make-up for Annual Congregational Meeting due to inclement weather) , 10:15 am Sunday School

Upcoming Meetings/Events (see website *Events* for calendar also)

Money Counting Mondays, Jan.23,30

Wed. Jan. 25 Choir- Rehearsals — Celeste (K-3rd) 6-6:30 pm, Praise & Worship (4th-12th) 6:30-7 pm, Handbells 7-8 pm, Chancel Adult Choir 8-9 pm -Basement

Mon. Jan. 23 - 9:00 AM -Piecemakers, Quilting Room

Mon. Jan. 23 - 6:30 PM Church Council Meeting in Fellowship Hall, Reorganization

Sun. Jan.29 - WELCA Thankoffering Service. (This service is out of the usual month of November due to scheduling issues last Nov.) The Thankoffering envelopes and the Thankoffering Boxes will be on the tables with the offering plates on Jan. 29th.

Mon. Jan. 30- 6:30pm Vacation Bible School Planning for Summer 2023, at Calvary Lewistown.

Tues. Feb. 7 -12:00pm-noon Meet and Greet luncheon at the OIP in Burnham.

NEXT SUNDAY: *Micah 6:1-8, Psalm 15, 1 Corinthians 1:18-31, Matthews 5:1-12*