

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 570-220-4402 (cell)

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, May 25th, 2025, 9:00 AM ✦ Sixth Sunday of Easter / Setting 3



INTRODUCTION

Visions abound in the readings for the sixth Sunday of Easter. Paul has a vision about what to do. John has a vision of what will be. Jesus provides visions of peace that surpasses human understanding and power beyond human imagination.

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 is served by a 2-line procession down the center aisle. We will celebrate with bread, wine, or grape juice. Gluten-free wafers are also available.

GIVE TO ST. JOHN'S Offering plates are located at each entrance. If you prefer to give electronically, visit our website, and click on the **E-Giving Tab**. Use your existing login information. For new users, search for St John's Lutheran Church Lewistown. Information on **E-Giving** is available on the SJLC resource table. Thank you for your continued support.

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 on the offering plate at the entrances. 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.

SERVING TODAY

Pastor – Rev. Allen Hulslander

Acolytes – Nevin Farley, Jackson Druckenmiller

Altar Guild Volunteers – Anne Spicer, Peggy Finkenbiner, Sharon Phillips, Jen Johnson

Cantor – Josie Baughman

Communion Assistants – Hillary Worley, Norma Fisher, Gisele Miller

Crucifer – Hillary Worley

Lay Reader – Sue Shawver

Ushers – Dennis Noble – head, Sandy Noble, Deb Kling

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

PRELUDE 9:00 AM "Patriotic Medley" ("America the Beautiful" Samuel A. Ward; "Thesaurus Musicus", c.1745; "Battle Hymn of the Republic" Traditional American Melody" Arr. Brent Olstad, 1999 Ron Harris Music

Jerry Stone - flute

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

GATHERING

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

Thanksgiving for Baptism

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

Alleluia! Christ is risen.

Christ is risen, indeed. Alleluia!

In the name of the One

who was, who is, and who is to come.

Amen.

Baptized into Christ's death and resurrection,

and called to live the baptized life,

let us give thanks for the gifts of baptism.

Water may be poured before or during the thanksgiving.

Holy God,

we give you thanks for the waters of baptism,

waters that make a people your own,

that restore to wholeness,

and empower us to be witnesses in your name.

Baptized into you, O Living One,

make us one as you are one.

We give you thanks for the waters of baptism,

waters that strengthen believers

and give new life to beloved servants of your church;

waters that extend your boundless love

and cross barriers of our own making.

Baptized into you, O Living One,

make us one as you are one.

We give you thanks for the waters of baptism,

waters that open the hearts of believers

and give a voice in the night to those in captivity;

waters that set your people on a new path,

rejoicing in the Spirit's power.

Baptized into you, O Living One,

make us one as you are one.

Grant us grace, love, and life, O Living One,

that our every day is shaped by these waters

that give us our very lives in you.

We ask this in the name of Jesus, the Crucified and Risen One. **Amen.**

Processional Hymn

ELW pg. #625 “Come, We That Love the Lord”

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

Glory to God

ELW pg. #139 Setting 3

PRAYER OF THE DAY

Bountiful God, you gather your people into your realm, and you promise us food from your tree of life. Nourish us with your word, that empowered by your Spirit, we may love one another and the world you have made, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

Amen.

Please be seated.

Special Music

“If You Love Me” Joel Raney, 2018 Hope Pub. Co.

Josie Baughman - vocal

CHILDRENS MESSAGE *All children are invited forward.*

WORD

First Reading: Acts 16:9-15

A vision compels Paul to move his ministry into Greece. There he meets Lydia, an important person in the business community, whose heart has been opened by God to receive the gospel. Her conversion and baptism provide the impetus for the founding of the church at Philippi.

⁹ During the night Paul had a vision: there stood a man of Macedonia pleading with him and saying, “Come over to Macedonia and help us.” ¹⁰ When he had seen the vision, we immediately tried to cross over to Macedonia, being convinced that God

had called us to proclaim the good news to them.¹¹ We set sail from Troas and took a straight course to Samothrace, the following day to Neapolis,¹² and from there to Philippi, which is a leading city of the district of Macedonia and a Roman colony. We remained in this city for some days. ¹³ On the sabbath day we went outside the gate by the river, where we supposed there was a place of prayer; and we sat down and spoke to the women who had gathered there. ¹⁴ A certain woman named Lydia, a worshiper of God, was listening to us; she was from the city of Thyatira and a dealer in purple cloth. The Lord opened her heart to listen eagerly to what was said by Paul. ¹⁵ When she and her household were baptized, she urged us, saying, "If you have judged me to be faithful to the Lord, come and stay at my home." And she prevailed upon us.

Reader ends with: **"The Word of the Lord."**

Congregation responds: **"Thanks be to God."**

Psalm: Psalm 67

Let the nations be glad and sing for joy. (Ps. 67:4)

¹ May God be merciful to us and bless us;
may the light of God's face shine upon us.

² **Let your way be known upon earth,
your saving health among all nations.**

³ Let the peoples praise you, O God;
let all the peoples praise you.

⁴ **Let the nations be glad and sing for joy,
for you judge the peoples with equity and guide all the nations on earth.**

⁵ Let the peoples praise you, O God;
let all the peoples praise you.

⁶ **The earth has brought forth its increase;
God, our own God, has blessed us.**

⁷ May God give us blessing,
and may all the ends of the earth stand in awe.

Second Reading: Revelation 21:10, 22—22:5

John's vision of a new Jerusalem coming out of heaven provides continuity with God's past actions. Yet in this new city, God's presence replaces the temple, and the glory of God and the Lamb supplants sun and moon.

¹⁰ And in the spirit [one of the angels] carried me away to a great, high mountain and showed me the holy city Jerusalem coming down out of heaven from God.

²² I saw no temple in the city, for its temple is the Lord God the Almighty and the

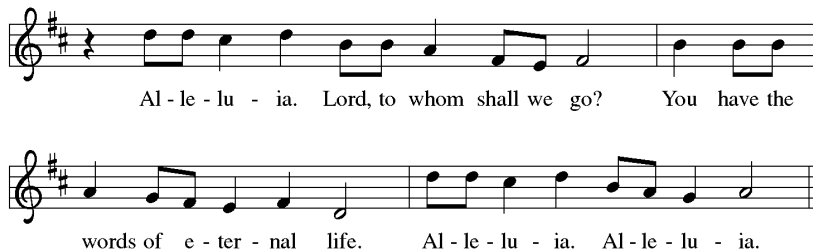
Lamb. ²³ And the city has no need of sun or moon to shine on it, for the glory of God is its light, and its lamp is the Lamb. ²⁴ The nations will walk by its light, and the kings of the earth will bring their glory into it. ²⁵ Its gates will never be shut by day—and there will be no night there. ²⁶ People will bring into it the glory and the honor of the nations. ²⁷ But nothing unclean will enter it, nor anyone who practices abomination or falsehood, but only those who are written in the Lamb's book of life.

^{22:1} Then the angel showed me the river of the water of life, bright as crystal, flowing from the throne of God and of the Lamb ² through the middle of the street of the city. On either side of the river is the tree of life with its twelve kinds of fruit, producing its fruit each month; and the leaves of the tree are for the healing of the nations. ³ Nothing accursed will be found there anymore. But the throne of God and of the Lamb will be in it, and his servants will worship him; ⁴ they will see his face, and his name will be on their foreheads. ⁵ And there will be no more night; they need no light of lamp or sun, for the Lord God will be their light, and they will reign forever and ever

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

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

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION *Please stand as you are able.*



The Holy Gospel according to John the 14th Chapter.

Glory to you, O Lord.

Gospel: John 14:23-29

As Jesus talks of returning to the Father, he promises to send the Advocate, the Holy Spirit, who will teach Jesus' followers and remind them of all that Jesus taught. Even more, those in whom God makes a home will experience a peace that overcomes fear.

²³ Jesus answered [Judas (not Iscariot),] “Those who love me will keep my word, and my Father will love them, and we will come to them and make our home with

them. ²⁴ Whoever does not love me does not keep my words; and the word that you hear is not mine but is from the Father who sent me.

²⁵ “I have said these things to you while I am still with you. ²⁶ But the Advocate, the Holy Spirit, whom the Father will send in my name, will teach you everything, and remind you of all that I have said to you. ²⁷ Peace I leave with you; my peace I give to you. I do not give to you as the world gives. Do not let your hearts be troubled, and do not let them be afraid. ²⁸ You heard me say to you, ‘I am going away, and I am coming to you.’ If you loved me, you would rejoice that I am going to the Father, because the Father is greater than I. ²⁹ And now, I have told you this before it occurs, so that when it does occur, you may believe.”

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.**

PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

The petitions end with: "Hear Us, O God."

And the Congregational response is:

"Your mercy is great"

SHARING of GOD'S PEACE

Share the Peace in a safe manner.

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

"And also with you."

Keep In Prayer: Deb Montgomery,
Patty Wagner, Steve & Vicki Yohn,
Jack Stull, Larry Niemond, Martha
Liebegott, Peter Marsh, Gail Ingram,
Linda Goss, Nellie Wilson, and the
Call Committee.

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

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.

The musical score is written on five staves in G major (one sharp) and 4/4 time. The melody is simple and hymn-like, with lyrics written below each staff. The first staff begins with a treble clef and a key signature of one sharp (F#). The music is in a common meter (4/4). The lyrics are: 'Let the vine-yards be fruit-ful, Lord, and fill to the brim our cup of'. The second staff continues the melody: 'bless-ing. Gath-er a har-vest from the seeds that were sown, that'. The third staff: 'we may be fed with the bread of life. Gath-er the hopes and dreams of'. The fourth staff: 'all; u-nite them with the prayers we of-fer. Grace our ta-ble'. The fifth staff concludes the song: 'with your pres-ence, and give us a fore-taste of the feast to come.'

OFFERING PRAYER

Risen One, you have gathered us around your table of grace along with these gifts we bring. Come among us again, breathe your life into us, and enliven us with this meal, that we may live as your risen body in the world.

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.

O God of resurrection and new life.... Grace our table with your presence.

C: Come, Holy Spirit

Reveal yourself to us in the breaking of the bread.... Send us forth, burning with justice, peace, and love.

C: Come, Holy Spirit.

With your holy ones of all times and places.... O God, blessed and holy Trinity, now and forever.

Amen.

The Lord's Prayer (spoken)

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

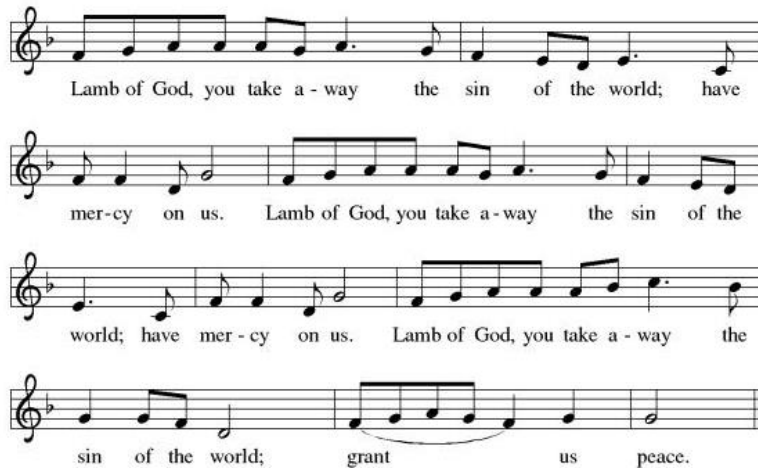
Give us this day our daily bread; and forgive us our trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us; and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever and ever. Amen.

INVITATION

Come to the table of grace. Receive the gift of new life.

Lamb of God

ELW pg. #208 Setting 3



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. Children, if not already communing, may be brought forward for a blessing from the Pastor. Please hold both hands out to receive the bread, then choose a cup from the Acolyte. Please dispose of your communion cup in the nearby waste basket.

Communion Music

Jerry Stone – flute

“O Love That Will Not Let Me Go” Albert L. Peace

“This Is My Father’s World” Traditional English Melody

“Abide With Me” William H. Monk

All 3 songs Arr. Brent Olstad, 1999 Ron Harris 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

Living One, in this feast you have made yourself known to us. Send us now to tell of your wonders, sing of your glory, and proclaim your risen life to a wounded and weary world. **Amen.**

SENDING

BLESSING

The triune God, who was, who is, and who is to come, Sovereign, Savior, and Spirit, light your way with resurrection dawn, now and always. **Amen.**

Sending Hymn

ELW pg. #815 “I Want to Walk as a Child of The Light”

Silent Meditation

DISMISSAL

Alleluia! Christ is risen.

Christ is risen indeed. Alleluia!

Go in peace. In Christ you are made new. Alleluia! Alleluia!

Thanks be to God. Alleluia! Alleluia!

POSTLUDE “Jerusalem, My Happy Home” (#628 in our hymnal)

Jerry Stone - flute

*From Sundays and Seasons.com. Copyright © 2025 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 ALTAR FLOWERS are presented by Suzanne and Dan Firth in honor of loved ones. **THIS WEEK'S BULLETIN** is presented by Cindy and Steve Burk in loving memory and honor of their son Jason Clair Burk.

THIS WEEK'S ETERNAL CANDLE BURNS in honor of their grandchildren Harper, Rowan, and Ensley by Cheryl and Ed Bressler.

THE COMMUNION WINE is presented by Josh and Hillary Pennepacker in honor of their daughters Mara and Joleigh.

ST. JOHN'S NEWS

THE SJLC OFFICE will be closed on **Monday, May 26th** for Memorial Day.

THE BARNABAS BROTHERS are proudly sponsoring a Red Cross Bloodmobile on **Friday, May 30th**, from 12 to 5 pm at St. John's Lutheran Church in the Fellowship Hall. Please consider supporting the Red Cross and giving the gift of Life to help Our Brothers and Sisters in Christ. The Barnabas Brothers will provide Chicken and Ham Salad Sandwiches in the kitchen for participants, and they will serve as greeters and as well as logging in donors upon arrival. St. John's Lutheran Church.

WE WILL HONORING GRADUATES on **June 1st**. If you have a son or daughter graduating from high school or college, please send the information to the office at stjohnslewistown@email.com. Please include post high school plans or college degree, school, major and awards.

LADIES LUNCHEON is on **Tuesday, June 3rd** at The Bread of Life. Ladies are to meet at the restaurant at 12-noon.

BOTTLES Each year from Mother's Day to Father's Day, Crossroads Pregnancy Center holds their "Baby Bottle Boomerang" fundraiser. If you want to participate, just pick up a baby bottle at one of the Church Nave entrances, fill it with your spare change, & return the baby bottle to the church Father's Day, June 15th. Thank you for your support! Give online www.cpcforlife.org

WOMENS SOCIAL Saturday, June 7th at 12-noon. Please bring a salad or dessert to share. Place settings and beverages will be provided. Open to all women of the church.

SUMMER SOCIAL HOUR The sign-up sheet for summer sponsors after worship in on the church window.

VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL will be **June 22nd – June 25th** at First United Methodist Church.

THE CHURCH COUNCIL would like your assistance in updating addresses, phone numbers, email and preferences for receiving mail and envelopes. We provided forms, as a bulletin insert, for you to complete but if you did not receive one, additional forms will be available on

the tables near the entrances. The preferences are needed in an effort to reduce expenses as postage will once again be increasing an additional 5 cents in July with 4 additional increases expected before 2027. We appreciate your assistance and thank you in advance!

COMMUNION ROBES If your communion robe is in need of cleaning (i.e. wine) please place in the laundry basket in the robe room.

SECOND QUARTER OFFERING Camp Mount Luther.

SOLES 4 SOULS A reminder. A box is in the lobby for any shoe donations.

LUMINA CENTER The new **2025** Restaurant Discount Cards are now available. 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.

LOST & FOUND there is a lost and found box in the lobby on the shelf above the coat rack. Please check for any items that you may be missing.

COMMITTEES/ORGANIZATIONS

THE SJLC COUNCIL is looking for volunteer(s) to assist with website design and maintenance. Please contact Hillary Worley or Ed Deamer, if interested.

THE SJLC PROPERTY COMMITTEE meeting is on **Tuesday, May 27th**, at 10:00am.

THE SJLC COUNCIL meeting is on **Tuesday, May 27th** at 6:30pm.

HAM SANDWICH SALE is on the second Friday of every month at SJLC. Orders are due the Monday before.

MOTHER HUBBARD'S CUPBOARD items for **May/June** are shampoo, deodorant, toothpaste, toothbrushes and bars of soap.

PIECEMAKERS QUILTING GROUP Needs sheets (slightly used ok please not stained). Deliver to the quilt room.

Worship SCHEDULE

June 1 [Seventh Sunday of Easter] 9:00am Worship
June 8 [Day of Pentecost] 9:00am Worship
June 15 [The Holy Trinity] 9:00am Worship
June 22 [Third Sunday after Pentecost] 9:00am Worship
June 29 [Fourth Sunday after Pentecost] 9:00am Worship

Meetings (Please see above for details)

Tue. 05/27 SJLC Property Committee meeting at 10:00am.
Tue. 05/27 SJLC Council meeting at 6:30pm.

Reminders for June

Acolytes – Anderson Bitner, Jameson Phillips

Altar Guild Volunteers – Norma Fisher, Gisele Miller, Cora Rankin

Communion Assistants – Scott Price -crucifer, Tom Beaver, Dennis Noble

Ushers – Dennis Crossgrove – head, Judy Spencer, Norma Flisher

Money Counters – Mary Barr, Jennie McCardle

Lay Lectors

**June 1 Anne Spicer, June 8 Kim Crone, June 15 Steve Burk, June 22 Ed Deamer,
June 29 Tom Beaver**

Next Sunday's Readings: *Acts 16:16-34, Psalm 97, Revelation 22:12-14, 16-17, 20-21, John 17:20-26*

