

“²²Then one of the leaders of the synagogue named Jairus came and, when he saw him, fell at his feet ²³and begged him repeatedly, “My little daughter is at the point of death. Come and lay your hands on her, so that she may be made well, and live.” ²⁴So he went with him.”

~Mark 5:22-24

St. John Evangelical Lutheran Church
Fifth Sunday after Pentecost – June 28, 2015

PO Box 411

Mars, PA 16046-0411

www.stjohnchurchmars.org

Phone: 724-625-1830 email: office@stjohnchurchmars.org

Rev. Robert Newpher, Interim Pastor

Jacob Gordon, Director of Music

*We welcome you to St. John Lutheran Church. We are delighted to have you worship with us this morning. Should you have no permanent church-home in this community, why not consider making this one your own? Please sign the guest book as you leave worship today or the attendance pad in the pew. You are most welcome here at St. John! Most elements of our service can be found in the bulletin, everything else is in the hymnal. Page refers to the numbered pages towards the front of the hymnal, hymns are bold and towards the back. Please rise when there is an *, congregational responses are in **bold**, and underlined elements of the service are found in the hymnal.*

HOLY COMMUNION
Fifth Sunday after Pentecost – June 28, 2015

A woman finds healing by touching Jesus' cloak, and a girl is restored to life when he takes her by the hand. In both cases a boundary is crossed: in Jesus' time the hemorrhaging woman was considered ritually unclean, polluting others by her touch, and anyone who touched a corpse also became unclean. In Mark's gospel Jesus breaks down barriers, from his first meal at a tax collector's house to his last breath on the cross as the temple curtain is torn in two. We dare to touch Jesus in our "uncleanness" and to live as a community that defines no one as an outsider.

Irenaeus, Bishop of Lyons, died around 202

This important early church leader tried very hard to hold to the faith handed down by the apostles. An opponent of the movement known as gnosticism, Irenaeus was one of the first to speak of the church as catholic, or linked together.

PRELUDE: *Draw Us in the Spirit's Tether* – James Biery

ANNOUNCEMENTS

***CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS**

In the name of the Father,
and of the + Son,
and of the Holy Spirit.

Amen.

Almighty God,
to whom all hearts are open, all desires known,
and from whom no secrets are hid:
cleanse the thoughts of our hearts
by the inspiration of your Holy Spirit,
that we may perfectly love you
and worthily magnify your holy name,
through Jesus Christ our Lord.

Amen.

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

Most merciful God,
**we confess that we are captive to sin
and cannot free ourselves.
We have sinned against you in thought, word, and deed,
by what we have done
and by what we have left undone.
We have not loved you with our whole heart;
we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves.
For the sake of your Son, Jesus Christ,
have mercy on us.
Forgive us, renew us, and lead us,
so that we may delight in your will
and walk in your ways,**

to the glory of your holy name. Amen.

In the mercy of almighty God,
Jesus Christ was given to die for us,
and for his sake God forgives us all our sins.
As a called and ordained minister of the church of Christ,
and by his authority,
I therefore declare to you
the entire forgiveness of all your sins,
in the name of the Father,
and of the + Son,
and of the Holy Spirit.
Amen.

GATHERING SONG #733: *Great is Thy Faithfulness

***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.

***GLORY TO GOD**



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!

***PRAYER OF THE DAY**

Let us pray.

**Almighty and merciful God,
we implore you to hear the prayers of your people.
Be our strong defense against all harm and danger,
that we may live and grow in faith and hope,
through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.
Amen.**

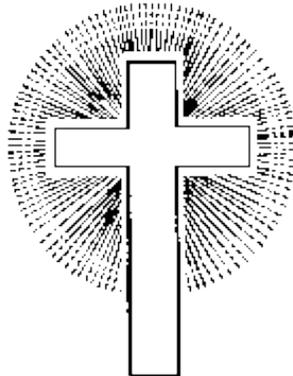
FIRST READING: Lamentations 3:22-33

The book of Lamentations is one of our most important sources of information about the fall of Jerusalem to the Babylonians in 587 B.C. Though the people admit that God's judgment was just, today's reading declares a fervent trust that God will not leave them forever.

²²The steadfast love of the LORD never ceases,
his mercies never come to an end;
²³they are new every morning;
great is your faithfulness.
²⁴"The LORD is my portion," says my soul,
"therefore I will hope in him."
²⁵The LORD is good to those who wait for him,
to the soul that seeks him.
²⁶It is good that one should wait quietly
for the salvation of the LORD.
²⁷It is good for one to bear
the yoke in youth,
²⁸to sit alone in silence
when the LORD has imposed it,
²⁹to put one's mouth to the dust
(there may yet be hope),
³⁰to give one's cheek to the smiter,
and be filled with insults.
³¹For the LORD will not
reject forever.
³²Although he causes grief, he will have compassion
according to the abundance of his steadfast love;
³³for he does not willingly afflict
or grieve anyone.

The word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.



PSALM 30

1. Come sing to God, O liv - ing saints, sing prais - es to God's name.
2. In my suc - cess I felt se - cure. How good You've been to me.
3. What good is gained by my dis - grace, what prof - it in de - feat?
4. You change my grief to joy - filled dance, my sor - rows You de - stroy.

God's an - ger is not per - ma - nent, God's love will nev - er wane.
I said that this is my own work, as - crib - ing all to me.
My grave can - not con - fess Your name, nor praise for You re - peat.
In faith - ful - ness You hear my cry and fill my life with joy.

Though tears may tar - ry for the night with sighs of deep - est pain,
But when You turned a - side Your face, my life was filled with fears.
Now hear, O Lord, my plain - tive cry; be mer - ci - ful to me.
And so to You my heart shall sing, my voice Your good - ness raise.

Yet joy comes with the morn - ing sun, a peace that is not vain.
I begged for help, to You I cried with loud and bit - ter tears.
Ac - cept my long - ing heart's re - quest and from death set me free.
You are my God, for - ev - er - more, my life shall sing Your praise.

SECOND READING: 2 Corinthians 8:7-15

Paul encourages the Corinthians to honor their commitment to participate in the collection his churches are organizing for the Christians in Jerusalem. He presents Jesus as an example of selfless stewardship and reminds them that Christians have received abundantly so that they can share abundantly.

⁷Now as you excel in everything — in faith, in speech, in knowledge, in utmost eagerness, and in our love for you — so we want you to excel also in this generous undertaking.

⁸I do not say this as a command, but I am testing the genuineness of your love against the earnestness of others.

⁹For you know the generous act of our Lord Jesus Christ, that though he was rich, yet for your sakes he became poor, so

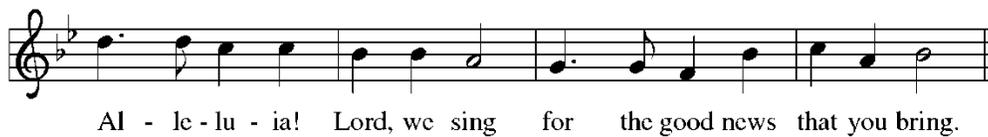
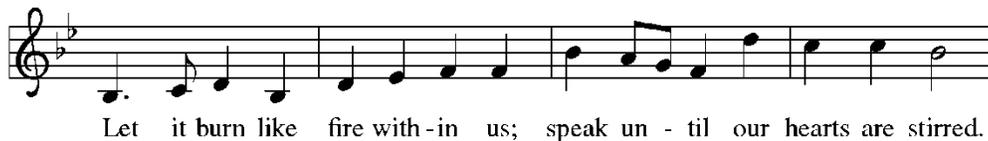
that by his poverty you might become rich. ¹⁰And in this matter I am giving my advice: it is appropriate for you who began last year not only to do something but even to desire to do something — ¹¹now finish doing it, so that your eagerness may be matched by completing it according to your means. ¹²For if the eagerness is there, the gift is acceptable according to what one has — not according to what one does not have. ¹³I do not mean that there should be relief for others and pressure on you, but it is a question of a fair balance between ¹⁴your present abundance and their need, so that their abundance may be for your need, in order that there may be a fair balance. ¹⁵As it is written,

"The one who had much did not have too much,
and the one who had little did not have too little."

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

***GOSPEL ACCLAMATION**



***GOSPEL READING: Mark 5:21–43**

Jairus, a respected leader, begs Jesus to heal his daughter. A woman with a hemorrhage is ritually unclean, treated as an outcast in Jewish society. Both Jairus and the unnamed woman come to Jesus in faith, believing in his power to heal and bring life out of death.

The holy gospel according to Mark.

Glory to you, O Lord.

²¹When Jesus had crossed again in the boat to the other side, a great crowd gathered around him; and he was by the sea. ²²Then one of the leaders of the synagogue named Jairus came and, when he saw him, fell at his feet ²³and begged him repeatedly, "My little daughter is at the point of death. Come and lay your hands on her, so that she may be made well, and live." ²⁴So he went with him.

And a large crowd followed him and pressed in on him. ²⁵Now there was a woman who had been suffering from hemorrhages for twelve years. ²⁶She had endured much under many physicians, and had spent all that she had; and she was no better, but rather grew worse.

²⁷She had heard about Jesus, and came up behind him in the crowd and touched his cloak, ²⁸for she said, "If I but touch his clothes, I will be made well." ²⁹Immediately her hemorrhage stopped; and she felt in her body that she was healed of her disease. ³⁰Immediately aware that power had gone forth from him, Jesus turned about in the crowd and said, "Who touched my clothes?" ³¹And his disciples said to him, "You see the crowd pressing in on you; how can you say, 'Who touched me?'" ³²He looked all around to see who had done it. ³³But the woman, knowing what had happened to her, came in fear and trembling, fell down before him, and told him the whole truth. ³⁴He said to her, "Daughter, your faith has made you well; go in peace, and be healed of your disease."

³⁵While he was still speaking, some people came from the leader's house to say, "Your daughter is dead. Why trouble the teacher any further?" ³⁶But overhearing what they said, Jesus said to the leader of the synagogue, "Do not fear, only believe." ³⁷He allowed no one to follow him except Peter, James, and John, the brother of James. ³⁸When they came

to the house of the leader of the synagogue, he saw a commotion, people weeping and wailing loudly. ³⁹When he had entered, he said to them, "Why do you make a commotion and weep? The child is not dead but sleeping." ⁴⁰And they laughed at him. Then he put them all outside, and took the child's father and mother and those who were with him, and went in where the child was. ⁴¹He took her by the hand and said to her, "Talitha cum," which means, "Little girl, get up!" ⁴²And immediately the girl got up and began to walk about (she was twelve years of age). At this they were overcome with amazement. ⁴³He strictly ordered them that no one should know this, and told them to give her something to eat.

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

CHILDREN'S SERMON

SERMON

****HYMN OF THE DAY #769: If You But Trust in God to Guide You***

***NICENE CREED**

**We believe in one God,
the Father, the Almighty,
maker of heaven and earth,
of all that is, seen and unseen.**

**We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ,
the only Son of God,
eternally begotten of the Father,
God from God, Light from Light,
true God from true God,
begotten, not made,
of one Being with the Father;
through him all things were made.
For us and for our salvation
he came down from heaven,
was incarnate of the Holy Spirit and the virgin Mary
and became truly human.
For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate;
he suffered death and was buried.
On the third day he rose again
in accordance with the scriptures;
he ascended into heaven
and is seated at the right hand of the Father.
He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead,
and his kingdom will have no end.**

**We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life,
who proceeds from the Father and the Son,*
who with the Father and the Son is worshiped and glorified,
who has spoken through the prophets.
We believe in one holy catholic and apostolic church.
We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins.
We look for the resurrection of the dead,
and the life of the world to come. Amen.**

***PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION**

Trusting the Spirit's power, we pray for the church, the world, and all of God's creation.

For the church of Christ, that as we are strengthened in faith we will be sent forth in peace. Hear us, O God. **Your mercy is great.**

For your Spirit flowing through the natural world, that we delight in creation's goodness and protect what is threatened. Hear us, O God. **Your mercy is great.**

For those who govern, that they lead with wisdom and listen with compassion. Hear us, O God. **Your mercy is great.**

For those who cry out from disease, distress, poverty, or powerlessness, especially Denise, Nan, Jim, Robert, Frieda, Kathy, Jim, Raymond, Wanda Jean, Francis & Grace, Kathryn, Fred & Jane, and David & Ellen, that they may be raised up in the arms of Christ. Hear us O God. **Your mercy is great.**

For this congregation, as we bid farewell to Pastor Newpher and prepare to welcome Pastor Zimmerman, that you send us into your future with open hearts. Hear us, O God. **Your mercy is great.**

With thanksgiving for your mercy shown to your saints throughout the ages, especially to Irenaeus, Bishop of Lyons, that all be made well in your eternal keeping. Hear us, O God. **Your mercy is great.**

Receive these prayers, gracious God, and those prayers known only to you. We ask this in the name of Jesus Christ by the power of the Holy Spirit. **Amen.**

***PEACE**

The peace of the Lord be with you always.

And also with you.

OFFERING

OFFERTORY HYMN #470: *Draw Us in the Spirit's Tether*

(Please stand for the final stanza as the gifts are brought forward.)

***OFFERING PRAYER**

Let us pray.

God of mercy and grace, the eyes of all wait upon you,
and you open your hand in blessing.

Fill us with good things at your table,
that we may come to the help of all in need,
through Jesus Christ, our redeemer and Lord.

Amen.

***DIALOGUE**

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Lift up your hearts.

We lift them to the Lord.

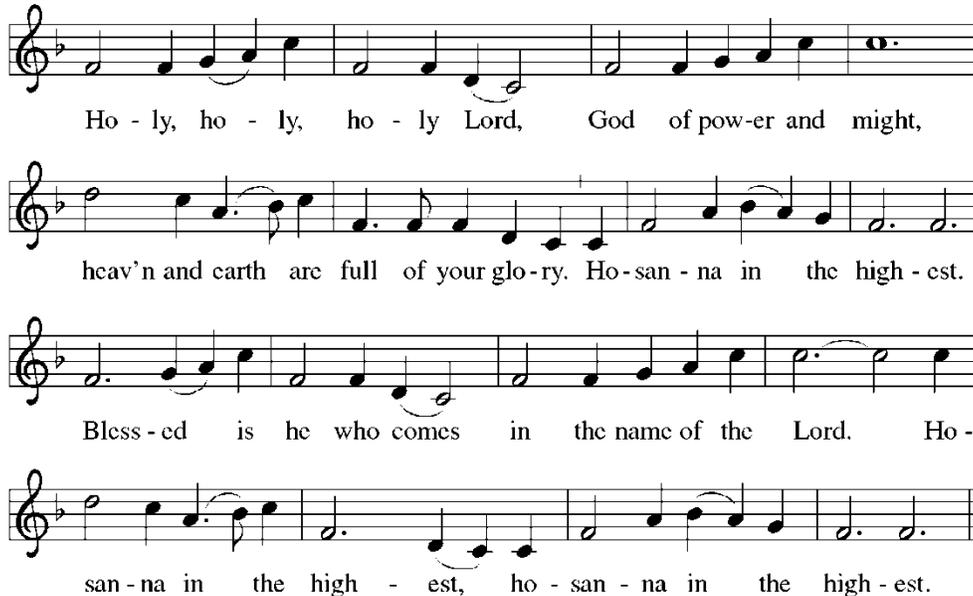
Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

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:

*HOLY, HOLY, HOLY



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

Holy God,
our Maker, Redeemer, and Healer,
in the harmonious world of your creation,
the plants and animals,
the seas and stars
were whole and well in your praise.

When sin had scarred the world,
you sent your Son to heal our ills
and to form us again into one.

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.

Remembering, therefore,
his acts of healing,
his body given up,
and his victory over death,
we await that day when all the peoples of the earth
will come to the river to enjoy the tree of life.

Send your Spirit upon us and this meal:
as grains scattered on the hillside become one bread,
so let your Church be gathered from the ends of the earth,
that all may be fed with the Bread of life, your Son.

Through him all glory and honor is yours,
Almighty Father, with the Holy Spirit,
in your holy Church,
both now and forever. **Amen.**

***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**

Jesus said, "Whoever comes to me will never be hungry,
and whoever believes in me will never be thirsty."

COMMUNION

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

COMMUNION SONG: *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.

COMMUNION HYMN #612: Healer of Our Every Ill

***POST-COMMUNION BLESSING**

The body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen and preserve you in grace.
Amen.

***POST-COMMUNION PRAYER**

Let us pray.

Wise and generous God, we thank you that at this holy table
you have fed us again with the food of everlasting life.
Send us with your blessing to seek the good of our neighbor
and call others to your feast;
through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

Amen.

***A LITURGY OF FAREWELL**

Pastor Newpher, during this time of transition,
you have proclaimed God's Word,
baptized new members into the Church of Jesus Christ,
announced God's forgiveness to us,
and presided at our celebration of the Lord's Supper.
With the Gospel you have comforted us in times of sickness and trouble,
and at the death of our loved ones.
Sharing our joys and sorrows, you have been important to our life together
in the Church of Jesus Christ and in our service to this community.

You have served our congregation faithfully and now you are leaving our midst.
As members of this congregation, we wish to honor your ministry among us
and bid you farewell and Godspeed in your new endeavors,
bringing closure to your ministry here.

*I thank the members and friends of St. John Lutheran Church
for the love, kindness, and support shown to me during my ministry among you.
I ask for your understanding and forgiveness for mistakes I have made
and for expectations I have not met.
I am grateful for the ways my ministry has been accepted.
As I leave, I carry with me all that I have learned here.*

**We receive your thankfulness,
and we offer you our forgiveness.
We express our gratitude for your time among us.
Forgive us for our shortcomings –
for ways we have sinned against you.
Your influence in our lives will not leave us,
even though you depart from us as our interim pastor.**

*I forgive you and accept your gratitude,
trusting that our time together and our parting are pleasing to our forgiving God
and to the Christ we are called to serve.*

Do you, members and friends of St. John Lutheran Church,
now release Pastor Newpher from the duties as interim minister
and do you offer encouragement and support for his ministry as it unfolds in a new place?
We do, with God's help.

Do you, Pastor Newpher, release St. John Lutheran Church
from turning to you and depending on you
and do you offer your encouragement and support for the continued ministry here?
I do, with God's help.

We will hold you in our prayers as you continue your ministry,
and we wish you God's blessing.

Let us pray.

**God, whose everlasting love for us all is trustworthy,
help each of us to trust the future which rests in your care.
The time we were together here in your name saw our laughter and tears,
our hopes and disappointments.
Guide us as we hold close these cherished memories,
but now move in new directions,
until that time to come when we are completely one with you and with each other.
In the name of Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.**

Go now, Pastor Newpher, surrounded by our love and led by the promises of God,
the presence of Jesus Christ, and the guidance of the Holy Spirit.
Amen.

***BLESSING**

Almighty and merciful God,
Father, + Son, and Holy Spirit,
bless, preserve, and keep you
this day and forevermore
Amen.

SENDING SONG#539: *Abide, O Dearest Jesus

***DISMISSAL**

Go in peace. Live in love, as Christ loved us.
Thanks be to God.

POSTLUDE: *If You but Trust in God to Guide You* – Georg Böhm

The flowers this week are given by Janet & Henry Ford in celebration of their 52nd Wedding Anniversary.

9:00 am

Assisting Minister: Christine Dishong

Communion Assistant:

Acolyte: Danielle Dishong

Usher: Bob Dishong

Attendance Last Week: 57

Attendance last year: 46

Weekly Budgeted Need: \$ 2,755.44

Last Week's Giving: \$ 1,943.00

YTD Budgeted Expenses: \$ 71,641.50

Year to Date Receipts: \$68,546.05

YTD Actual Expense: \$ 66,396.83

Come Sing to God – text: Psalm 30, para. Fred R. Anderson; music: 18th century German melody; Text © 1986 Fred R. Anderson, from *Singing Psalms of Joy and Praise*. Used by permission.

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