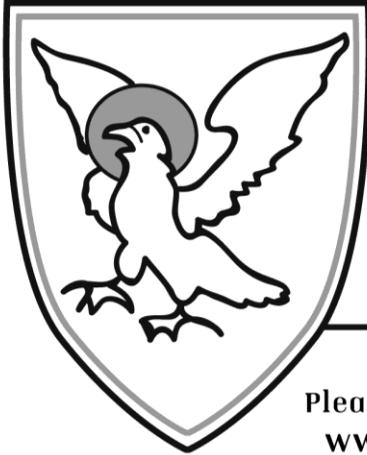


JULY 25, 2021

# Saint John's Lutheran Church

## Spinnerstown

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Please visit our web site—  
[www.stjohnsofspinnerstown.org](http://www.stjohnsofspinnerstown.org)

**St. John's Lutheran Church**

1565 Sleepy Hollow Road | P.O. Box 120

Spinnerstown, PA 18968

215) 536-0734

General email: [stjohnsspinnerstown@gmail.com](mailto:stjohnsspinnerstown@gmail.com)

***Welcome to worship with St. John's of Spinnerstown!***

Thank you for joining us today either in Church or online!

Our service this morning will be filled with scripture, proclamation, praise, and prayer. Everything you need is available in your bulletin.

If you have any prayer concerns to add to the list please contact the Church Office.

**The Staff of St. John's**

The People of St. John's

Rev. Axel T. Kaegler

(kaegax01@gmail.com or phone – 201.739.7702)

Carol Dzurenda

Darcy McConahy

Becky Hinderliter

Joseph Brooke & Laurie Stoneback

Jen Bara

Ministers

Pastor

Organist

Choir Director

Christian Education Director

Sextons

Secretary

**Office Hours:** Monday, Wednesday and Thursday 9:00 a.m. – 1:00 p.m.

Office Phone: 215.536.0734    Office Email: [stjohnsspinnerstown@gmail.com](mailto:stjohnsspinnerstown@gmail.com)

**Keep up with St. John's news**

Now you don't have to wait a month between editions of the Spire to see what's new at St. John's. For those who use social media, we can be found on Facebook (St. John's Lutheran Church, Spinnerstown, PA), Instagram (stjohnsspinnerstown) and Twitter (stjohnsspinnerstown). Anyone online can visit our website, [www.stjohnsofspinnerstown.org](http://www.stjohnsofspinnerstown.org). Feel free to share with your "friends" and "followers" any items you find on these sites.

ST. JOHN'S LUTHERAN CHURCH  
SPINNERSTOWN, PA  
9<sup>TH</sup> SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST  
JULY 25, 2021

Announcements

Prelude: "*Panis Angelicus*"

arr. E. Rodgers

+ Order for Confession and Forgiveness

P: In the name of the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit.

**C: Amen.**

P: 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.

**C: Amen.**

P: Gracious God,

**C: have mercy on us. We confess that we have turned from you and given ourselves into the power of sin. We are truly sorry and humbly repent. In your compassion forgive us our sins, known and unknown, things we have done and things we have failed to do. Turn us again to you, and uphold us by your Spirit, so that we may live and serve you in newness of life through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.  
Amen.**

P: 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.

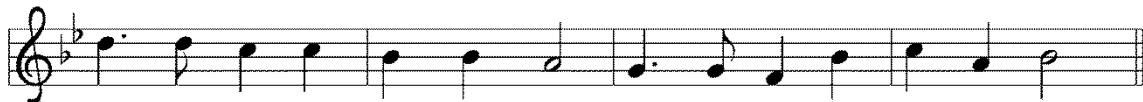
**C: Amen.**



1 O - pen now thy gates of beau - ty, Zi - on, let me en - ter there,  
 2 Gra - cious God, I come be - fore thee; come thou al - so un - to me;  
 3 Here thy praise is glad - ly chant-ed, here thy seed is du - ly sown;  
 4 Thou my faith in - crease and quick-en, let me keep thy gift di - vine;  
 5 Speak, O God, and I will hear thee, let thy will be done in - deed;



where my soul in joy - ful du - ty waits for God who an - swers prayer.  
 where we find thee and a - dore thee, there a heav'n on earth must be.  
 let my soul, where it is plant-ed, bring forth pre - cious sheaves a - lone,  
 how - so - e'er temp - ta - tions thick-en, may thy word still o'er me shine  
 may I un - dis - turbed draw near thee while thou dost thy peo - ple feed.



Oh, how bless-ed is this place, filled with so - lace, light, and grace!  
 To my heart, oh, en - ter thou, let it be thy tem - ple now!  
 so that all I hear may be fruit - ful un - to life in me.  
 as my guid-ing star through life, as my com - fort in all strife.  
 Here of life the foun - tain flows; here is balm for all our woes.

Text: Benjamin Schmolck, 1672–1737; tr. Catherine Winkworth, 1827–1878, alt.  
 Music: UNSER HERRSCHER, Joachim Neander, 1650–1680

## + The Greeting

**P:** The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

**C:** And also with you.

## + Prayer of the Day

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.**

First Reading: A reading from 2 Kings 4:42-44.

*Today's reading is part of a larger section of 2 Kings that describes the miracles of Elisha, the successor to Elijah. Here the prophet gives food to a hungry crowd. Though there is not enough food to go around, Elisha trusts God, who provides enough and even more to satisfy the need.*

<sup>42</sup>A 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." <sup>43</sup>But 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.' " <sup>44</sup>He set it before them, they ate, and had some left, according to the word of the LORD.

L: Word of God, word of life.

**C: Thanks be to God.**

Psalm 145:10-18

<sup>10</sup>All your works shall praise you, O LORD,  
and your faithful ones shall bless you.

<sup>11</sup>**They shall tell of the glory of your kingdom  
and speak of your power,**

<sup>12</sup>that all people may know of your power  
and the glorious splendor of your kingdom.

<sup>13</sup>**Your kingdom is an everlasting kingdom;  
your dominion endures throughout all ages.**

**You, LORD, are faithful in all your words,  
and loving in all your works.**

<sup>14</sup>The Lord upholds all those who fall  
and lifts up those who are bowed down.

<sup>15</sup>**The eyes of all wait upon you, O LORD,  
and you give them their food in due season.**

<sup>16</sup>You open wide your hand  
and satisfy the desire of every living thing.

<sup>17</sup>**You are righteous in all your ways  
and loving in all your works.**

<sup>18</sup>You are near to all who call upon you,  
to all who call upon you faithfully.

Second Reading: A reading from Ephesians 3:14-21.

*We have been rooted and grounded in the love of Christ, which surpasses all human knowledge. Because Christ dwells in our hearts, our lives are continuously strengthened and empowered by the ongoing presence of the Spirit.*

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

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

L: Word of God, word of life.

**C: Thanks be to God.**

+ Holy Gospel: The holy gospel according to John 6:1-21.

**C: Glory to you, O Lord!**

*In John's gospel, the miracles of Jesus are called "signs," because they reveal the true character of God. As such, they remain within the mystery of God and cannot be brought under human control.*

<sup>1</sup>Jesus went to the other side of the Sea of Galilee, also called the Sea of Tiberias. <sup>2</sup>A large crowd kept following him, because they saw the signs that he was doing for the sick. <sup>3</sup>Jesus went up the mountain and sat down there with his disciples. <sup>4</sup>Now the Passover, the festival of the Jews, was near. <sup>5</sup>When 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?” <sup>6</sup>He said this to test him, for he himself knew what he was going to do. <sup>7</sup>Philip answered him, “Six months’ wages would not buy enough bread for each of them to get a little.” <sup>8</sup>One of his disciples, Andrew, Simon Peter’s brother, said to him, <sup>9</sup>“There is a boy here who has five barley loaves and two fish. But what are they among so many people?” <sup>10</sup>Jesus 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. <sup>11</sup>Then 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. <sup>12</sup>When they were satisfied, he told his disciples, “Gather up the fragments left over, so that nothing may be lost.” <sup>13</sup>So they gathered them up, and from the fragments of the five barley loaves, left by those who had eaten, they filled twelve baskets. <sup>14</sup>When 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.”

<sup>15</sup>When 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.

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

P: The Gospel of the Lord.

**C: Praise to you, O Christ!**

Sermon

Hymn of the Day: "Let Us Talents and Tongues Employ"

#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!

Text: Fred Kaan, b. 1929

Music: LINSTEAD, Jamaican folk tune; adapt. Doreen Potter, 1925–1980

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+ 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

Rooted in Christ and sustained by the Spirit, we offer our prayers for the church, the world, and all of creation.

*A brief silence.*

We pray for the church. Bless the ministries of our neighboring congregations. Empower churches throughout the world and encourage missionaries who accompany global neighbors. Kindle in us a spirit of collaboration, that all people may know your loving works. Hear us, O God.

**Your mercy is great.**

We pray for creation. Send rain to lands experiencing drought and come to the aid of those enduring sweltering heat. Nurture wheat and barley crops grown for the nourishment of your people and conserve aquatic habitats and fish populations. Hear us, O God.

**Your mercy is great.**

We pray for those who govern. Cast out arrogance, selfishness, and corruption and instruct those who lead to practice compassion and humility. Inspire them with a vision of the common good and a commitment to ensure that all who hunger are fed. Hear us, O God.

**Your mercy is great.**

We pray for those bowed down by heavy burdens: those who are unemployed or underemployed, those unable to find affordable housing, and those without health insurance. Console those who grieve and hear the cries of those who call to you for healing (*especially*). Hear us, O God.

**Your mercy is great.**

We pray for this assembly. Deepen our resolve to use what we have to serve those in need. When we worry that we do not have enough resources for ministry, assure us of your abundance. Hear us, O God.

**Your mercy is great.**

We give you thanks, God, for the medical workers. Be with them and provide comfort, guidance, health and strength. Bless nurses, doctors, paramedics, EMTs, and hospital workers of all kinds - from the anesthesiologists to x-ray technicians, and from the reception desk to the janitor's closet. Hear us, O God.

**Your mercy is great.**

We give you thanks for those who work on site in the days of the pandemic - our food providers, our road maintainers, our forestries, our industrial plants, mechanics and auto shop repair workers, our truckers, our telecommunications and information technology folks, those who work in residential care facilities, those who house travelers, funeral directors, and all life-sustaining workers. Give them the courage to work, the protection they need, and the respect and dignity fitting of those who make life possible. Hear us, O God.

**Your mercy is great.**

*Here other intercessions may be offered.*

We give thanks for those who have died. As you sustained them through all their days, so dwell in our hearts, that we may have the power to comprehend, with the apostle James, and all the saints, the love of Christ that surpasses knowledge. Hear us, O God.

**Your mercy is great.**

We give you thanks for the Church's Bishops - Bishop Eaton and Bishop Davenport, for the Church's pastors and deacons, and all called by you and your people to lead and guide our congregations. Keep them strong and faithful in the power and grace of your abiding word. Hear us, O God.

**Your mercy is great.**

We lift these and all our prayers to you, O God, confident in the promise of your saving love; through Jesus Christ our Lord.

**Amen.**

+ 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.**

+ Benediction

+ Sharing of the Peace

+ Closing Hymn: *"Rise, O Church, like Christ Arisen"*

#548



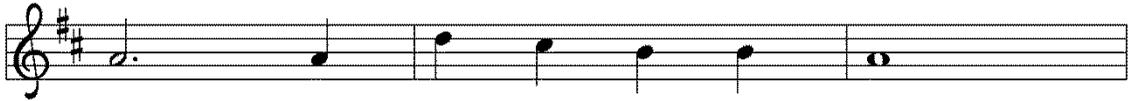
1 Rise, O church, like Christ a - ris - en,  
2 Rise, trans - formed, and choose to fol - low  
3 Rise, re - mem - ber well the fu - ture  
4 Ser - vice be our sure vo - ca - tion;



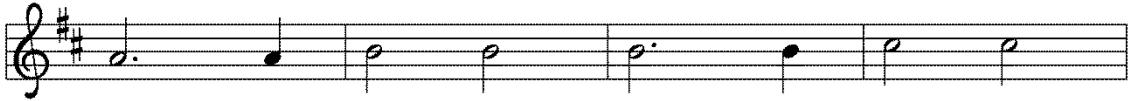
from this meal of love and grace;  
af - ter Christ, though wound - ed, whole;  
God has called us to re - ceive;  
cour - age be our dai - ly breath;



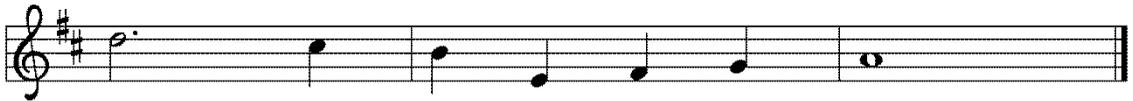
may we through such love en - vi - sion  
bro - ken, shared, our lives are hal - lowed  
pres - ent by God's lov - ing nur - ture,  
mer - cy be our des - ti - na - tion



whose we are, and whose, our praise.  
to re - lease and to con - sole.  
Spir - it - ed then let us live.  
from this day and un - to death.



Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia;  
Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia;  
Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia;  
Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.



God, the won - der of our days.  
Christ, our pres - ent, past, and goal.  
Spir - it, grace by whom we live.  
Rise, O church, a liv - ing faith.

Text: Susan Palo Cherwien, b. 1953  
Music: SURGE ECCLESIA, Timothy J. Strand, b. 1958  
Text © 1997 Susan Palo Cherwien. admin. Augsburg Fortress.

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+ Dismissal

Postlude: *“All Things Bright and Beautiful”*

arr. R. Hartsell

## **Worship Assistant Schedule**

*July Usher Captain – Maureen Potsko*  
*August Usher Captain – Colton Landes*

### ***Lectors***

July 25 – Stephen Spry  
August 1 – Bill Slotter  
August 8 – Peggy Hudock

### ***Ushers***

July 25 – Joe & Noel Brooke  
August 1 – Bill & Mary Slotter  
August 8 – George & Peggy Hudock

### ***Communion Assistants***

August 1 – Ushers will assist

### ***Altar Guild***

July – Maureen Potsko & Betty Sinisko  
August – Connie Schwartz & Linda Vey

### **NEW VOLUNTEERS NEEDED!**

Over the last year, due to the pandemic, the number of volunteers willing to usher and lector has understandably dwindled.

As guidelines have changed again and people are getting vaccinations, I'm hoping that more of you will be comfortable coming back to worship. If you are willing to volunteer for either (or both!) of these positions (lector and usher), please contact the church office and let me know which position, and if you are willing to do so inside, outside in the grove, or both.

*If you are currently a worship assistant, please also respond again with your preferences, in case there are changes.*

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## **We Remember in Our Prayers**

Kathleen Lausch (Ron Lausch's mother), Family & Friends of Linda Odom (Kathie Afflerbach's sister), Roy Frock (Janet Bassett's father), Ed Brubaker (friend of Mildred Westgate), Betty Konjusky (Peggy Hudock's mother), Thomas Wickham (relative of Mildred Westgate), Rev. Dr. Richard Stewart, Pastor John Berntsen, Pauline Gerhart (Donna Angstadt's sister-in-law), Viola Giebel (Peggy Hudock's daughter-in-law's mother), Debbie & Larry Lasher (Darcy McConahy's sister & brother-in-law), Renee Georgiadis, Michael Bowers, Dorothy Brinkman, and Joe Otto (Marsha Hartley's brother)

## **Prayers, Please**

***Our Prayer List*** – Each week there appears in this bulletin, a list of people for whom congregation members are asked to pray. The names are read during the “Prayers of Intercession.” The names are listed for four weeks and then removed, but they can be re-added every four weeks for as long as necessary. To add a name to the prayer list - or to renew a listing - please contact Church Secretary Jen Bara at 215-536-0734, Monday, Wednesday or Thursday, 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. or send her an e-mail at [stjohnsspinnerstown@gmail.com](mailto:stjohnsspinnerstown@gmail.com). To assure a name will be included in the next bulletin, please contact her by 10 a.m. Thursday.

***St. John's Prayer Circle*** is ready and waiting for your requests. If you know someone in need of prayer – or if you would like to join the circle and expand our collective voice – please call Joan Seiger at [215-257-7478](tel:215-257-7478) or Loretta Thorsen at [215-679-2356](tel:215-679-2356).



## ANNOUNCEMENTS

**Welcome in the Name of Jesus!**

**We pray that you will be blessed by your time here today,  
and that God will fill you with grace and love every day.**

**The bulletins are sponsored this week by St. John's Lutheran Church.**

**Sunday Ribs** – The donation of ribs we used for Food for Friends was larger than we first thought; nonetheless we prepared all of them in case they were needed. The result is that we have 2 remaining trays of cooked ribs we froze after the dinner. These ribs are cut into approximately 1 lb servings. After church on August 1, Social Ministry will be giving away those remaining ribs! You can tell us how many servings you want.



**Summer Worship Music** - If you have a vocal talent or play an instrument and would like to share it at a summer service, please contact Carol Dzurenda. We are also looking for other music groups that are interested. Thank you!

**The Worship and Music Committee** is seeking volunteers to assist with setting up and tearing down the audio equipment for the outdoor worship services over the summer. Set-up begins at approximately 8:30 a.m. More help is needed for setting up. Please contact Carol Dzurenda, Darcy McConahy or Pastor Kaegler if you can assist. Thank you!

**Spire Sponsors** still needed for 2021! It is \$30/month for one person/family, or you can split the sponsorship with another for \$15 each. Contact the office if you would like to sponsor! 215-536-0734 or [stjohnspinnerstown@gmail.com](mailto:stjohnspinnerstown@gmail.com).

**Bulletin Sponsors** are needed for **2021** – ***There are MANY openings – please consider sponsoring!*** It is \$20 to help cover the expense of mailing the bulletin to our members who do not have email. Please contact the office at 215-536-0734 or [stjohnspinnerstown@gmail.com](mailto:stjohnspinnerstown@gmail.com) or to sponsor! Thank you in advance!

## Small Groups in the Building

Based on the available data, our Church Council has decided that our congregational building can begin hosting small group meetings once again.

All of St. John's ministry groups are welcome to begin using the building for meetings and activities based on their own comfort level. We thank you for your patience and faithfulness over this past year.

## Sunday Worship

Worship will be in our beautiful Grove for the summer.

In case of inclement weather, services will move to the Multi-purpose room. A live-streamed and/or recorded worship service will be available from home.

When coming to our outdoor service, please follow these guidelines:

- *There is a basket for offering on the table at the back of the grove.*
- Bulletins are available, but consider downloading the bulletin on a personal device or printing it from home.
- Pack your lawn chairs, picnic blankets, umbrellas, sunscreen, masks, etc.
- Please practice social distancing.
- The use of masks is optional for those who are fully vaccinated.
- Speakers are being set up in the parking lot to make worship easier for folks who choose to stay in their cars.

## Dates to Remember

08/01/21	9:30 a.m. Outdoor Communion
08/10/21	6:30 p.m. Pub(lic) Theology
08/11/21	7:00 p.m. Worship & Music
08/13/21	<i>S'mores Night!</i>
08/15/21	4:00 p.m. Zoom Council
08/16/21	<i>Spire Articles Due!</i>