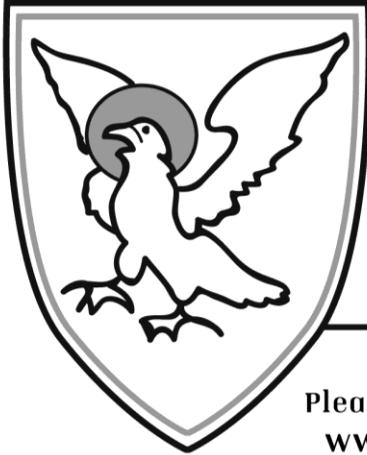


JUNE 13, 2021

# 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. We're providing all of today's readings in the bulletin - but we will be only reading aloud one passage from scripture.

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  
3<sup>RD</sup> SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST  
JUNE 13, 2021

Announcements

Prelude: *"Come, Thou Fount of Every Blessing"*

arr. J. Carter

+ 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.**

+ 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

O God, you are the tree of life, offering shelter to all the world. Graft us into yourself and nurture our growth, that we may bear your truth and love to those in need, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

**Amen.**

First Reading: A reading Ezekiel 17:22-24.

*Tree imagery is used in a messianic prophecy to tell how the LORD will choose someone from Judah's royal family (the cedar tree) to reign over all creation. This tree will be planted on Mount Zion, the location of the holy temple.*

<sup>22</sup>Thus says the Lord GOD:

I myself will take a sprig from the lofty top of a cedar;

I will set it out.

I will break off a tender one from the topmost of its young twigs;

I myself will plant it on a high and lofty mountain.

<sup>23</sup>On the mountain height of Israel I will plant it,

in order that it may produce boughs and bear fruit,  
and become a noble cedar.

Under it every kind of bird will live;

in the shade of its branches will nest winged creatures of every kind.

<sup>24</sup>All the trees of the field shall know that I am the LORD.

I bring low the high tree, I make high the low tree;

I dry up the green tree and make the dry tree flourish.

I the LORD have spoken;

I will accomplish it.

L: Word of God, word of life.

**C: Thanks be to God.**

Psalm 92:1-4, 12-15

<sup>1</sup>It is a good thing to give thanks to the LORD,  
to sing praise to your name, O Most High;

<sup>2</sup>**to herald your love in the morning  
and your faithfulness at night;**

<sup>3</sup>on the psaltery, and on the lyre,  
and to the melody of the harp.

<sup>4</sup>**For you have made me glad by your acts, O LORD;  
and I shout for joy because of the works of your hands.**

<sup>12</sup>The righteous shall flourish like a palm tree,  
and shall spread abroad like a cedar of Lebanon.

<sup>13</sup>**Those who are planted in the house of the LORD  
shall flourish in the courts of our God;**

<sup>14</sup>they shall still bear fruit in old age;  
they shall be green and succulent;

<sup>15</sup>**that they may show how upright the LORD is,  
my rock, in whom there is no injustice.**

Second Reading: A reading from 2 Corinthians 5:6-17.

*Paul encourages believers to live by faith and not by sight. We do not consider Jesus from a human perspective but through the eyes of faith, believing he died for all and was raised. All who are in Christ are now in God's new creation.*

<sup>6</sup>So we are always confident; even though we know that while we are at home in the body we are away from the Lord—<sup>7</sup>for we walk by faith, not by sight. <sup>8</sup>Yes, we do have confidence, and we would rather be away from the body and at home with the Lord. <sup>9</sup>So whether we are at home or away, we make it our aim to please him. <sup>10</sup>For all of us must appear before the judgment seat of Christ, so that each may receive recompense for what has been done in the body, whether good or evil.

<sup>11</sup>Therefore, knowing the fear of the Lord, we try to persuade others; but we ourselves are well known to God, and I hope that we are also well known to your consciences. <sup>12</sup>We are not commending ourselves to you again, but giving you an opportunity to boast about us, so that you may be able to

answer those who boast in outward appearance and not in the heart. <sup>13</sup>For if we are beside ourselves, it is for God; if we are in our right mind, it is for you. <sup>14</sup>For the love of Christ urges us on, because we are convinced that one has died for all; therefore all have died. <sup>15</sup>And he died for all, so that those who live might live no longer for themselves, but for him who died and was raised for them.

<sup>16</sup>From now on, therefore, we regard no one from a human point of view; even though we once knew Christ from a human point of view, we know him no longer in that way. <sup>17</sup>So if anyone is in Christ, there is a new creation: everything old has passed away; see, everything has become new!

L: Word of God, word of life.

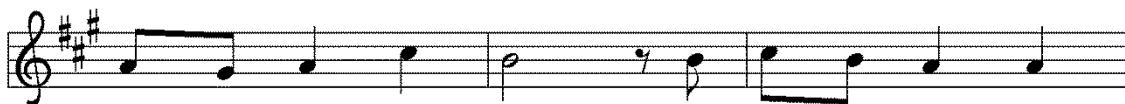
C: **Thanks be to God.**

+ Gospel Acclamation: “*We Walk by Faith*” Verses 1 and 3

#635



1 We walk by faith and not by sight; with  
 2 We may not touch your hands and side, nor  
 3 Help then, O Lord, our un - be - lief; and



gra - cious words draw near, O Christ, who spoke as  
 fol - low where you trod; but in your prom - ise  
 may our faith a - bound to call on you when



none e'er spoke: "My peace be with you here."  
 we re - joice, and cry, "My Lord and God!"  
 you are near and seek where you are found:

+ Holy Gospel: The holy gospel according to Mark 4:26-34.

*Jesus frequently uses parables to teach ordinary people as they are able to hear and understand. Images of sowing and growing show the vitality of God's kingdom.*

<sup>26</sup>[Jesus] said, "The kingdom of God is as if someone would scatter seed on the ground,<sup>27</sup> and would sleep and rise night and day, and the seed would sprout and grow, he does not know how. <sup>28</sup>The earth produces of itself, first the stalk, then the head, then the full grain in the head. <sup>29</sup>But when the grain is ripe, at once he goes in with his sickle, because the harvest has come."

<sup>30</sup>He also said, "With what can we compare the kingdom of God, or what parable will we use for it? <sup>31</sup>It is like a mustard seed, which, when sown upon the ground, is the smallest of all the seeds on earth; <sup>32</sup>yet when it is sown it grows up and becomes the greatest of all shrubs, and puts forth large branches, so that the birds of the air can make nests in its shade."

<sup>33</sup>With many such parables he spoke the word to them, as they were able to hear it; <sup>34</sup>he did not speak to them except in parables, but he explained everything in private to his disciples.

P: The Gospel of the Lord.

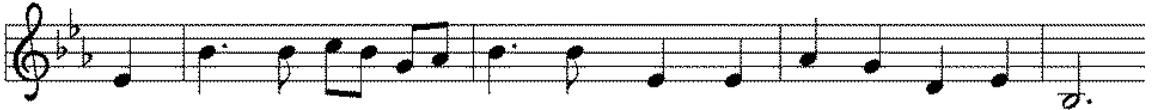
**C: Praise to you, O Christ!**

Sermon

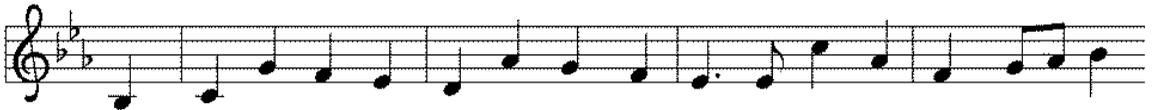
Hymn of the Day: "*How Clear Is Our Vocation, Lord*"

#580

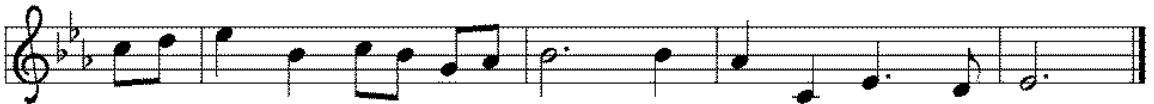
# How Clear Is Our Vocation, Lord



1 How clear is our vo - ca - tion, Lord, when once we heed your call  
2 But if, for - get - ful, we should find your yoke is hard to bear;  
3 We mar - vel how your saints be - come in hin - dranc - es more sure;  
4 In what you give us, Lord, to do, to - geth - er or a - lone,



to live ac - cord - ing to your word and dai - ly learn, re - freshed, re - stored,  
if world - ly pres - sures fray the mind and love it - self can - not un - wind  
whose joy - ful vir - tues put to shame the ca - sual way we wear your name,  
in old rou - tines or ven - tures new, may we not cease to look to you,



that you are Lord of all and will not let us fall.  
its tan - gled skein of care: our in - ward life re - pair.  
and by our faults ob - scure your pow'r to cleanse and cure.  
the cross you hung up - on, all you en - deav - ored done.

Text: Fred Pratt Green, 1903–2000

Music: REPTON, C. Hubert H. Parry, 1848–1918

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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  
Let us come before the triune God in prayer.

*A brief silence.*

Holy God, you plant the seeds of faith in every nation. Enliven your church, so that the good news of your grace may root and grow throughout the world.

Lord, in your mercy,

**hear our prayer.**

Creator, even the trees, shrubs, and flowers delight in your goodness. From the depths of the soil to the highest mountain, bring forth new plants. Restore growth to places suffering drought. Lord, in your mercy,

**hear our prayer.**

Judge of nations, we pray for our leaders and those in power. Grant them the ability to regard those under their charge with humility, dedicating their lives in service to others. Lord, in your mercy,

**hear our prayer.**

Divine comforter, you show compassion to those in need and provide relief to those who call on you. Bless all who suffer, especially people trapped in cycles of poverty and homelessness. We pray especially for... Lord, in your mercy,

**hear our prayer.**

Sovereign God, this house of worship belongs to you. We give thanks and pray for our church musicians, *especially Darcy and Carol*. We dedicate to you the joyful noise that comes from this place; the cries of children, the melody of voice and instruments, and the songs from our hearts. Lord, in your mercy,

**hear our prayer.**

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. Lord, in your mercy,

**hear our prayer.**

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. Lord, in your mercy,

**hear our prayer.**

*Here other intercessions may be offered.*

Eternal God, we give thanks for our ancestors in the faith who are now at home with you (*especially*). We look forward to that day when we are reunited in your new creation. Lord, in your mercy,

**hear our prayer.**

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. Lord, in your mercy,

**hear our prayer.**

We lift our prayers to you, O God, trusting in your abiding grace.

**Amen.**

+ The Lord's Prayer

**Our Father,**

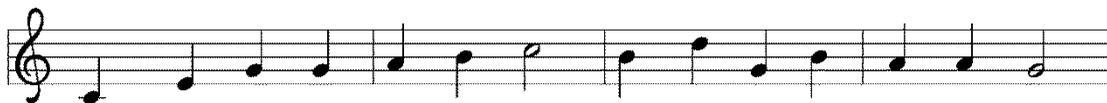
**who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name,**

**thy kingdom come, thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven.**

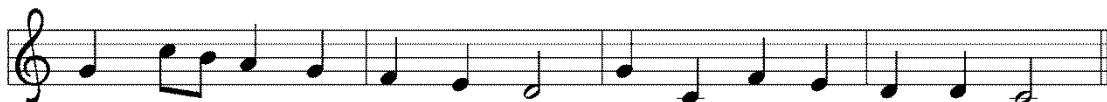
**Give us this day our daily bread;  
 and forgive us our trespasses,  
 as we forgive those who trespass against us;  
 and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil.  
 For thine is the kingdom, and the power,  
 and the glory, forever and ever.  
 Amen.**

Closing Hymn: *“Spread, Oh, Spread, Almighty Word”*

#663



1 Spread, oh, spread, al - might - y Word, spread the reign of God the Lord.  
 2 Tell of our Re - deem - er's grace, who, to save our hu - man race  
 3 Tell of God the Spir - it giv'n now to guide us on - to heav'n,  
 4 Lord of har - vest, great and kind, rouse to ac - tion heart and mind;



Send forth our Cre - a - tor's call, heav-en's gifts ex - tend to all.  
 and to pay re - bel - lion's price, gave him - self as sac - ri - fice.  
 strong and ho - ly, just and true, work - ing both to will and do.  
 let the gath - 'ring na - tions all see your light and heed your call.

Text: Jonathan F. Bahnmaier, 1774–1841; tr. *Lutheran Book of Worship*, alt.  
 Music: GOTT SEI DANK, J. A. Freylinghausen, *Geistreiches Gesangbuch*, 1704  
 Text © 1978 *Lutheran Book of Worship*, admin. Augsburg Fortress

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+ Benediction

+ Sharing of the Peace

+ Dismissal

Postlude: *“How Firm a Foundation”*

arr. E. Rogers

## **We Remember in Our Prayers**

Ed Brubaker (friend of Mildred Westgate), Barbara Everitt (Matt Everitt's mother), 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), Pat Zielinski, 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).

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## **Dates to Remember**

06/13/21	4:00 p.m. Zoom Council meeting
06/16/21	<i>Spire Articles Due!</i>
06/20/21	<i>Father's Day</i>
	9:30 a.m. Outdoor Worship

## 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 with love from the Butz, Westgate and Weiss families in celebration of Mildred's 102<sup>nd</sup> birthday.*

### Sunday Worship

Please follow the Indoor Worship Guidelines included in the bulletin.

- 🕒 June 13 – Indoors in the Multi-purpose Room
- 🕒 June 20 – September 5 – *Outdoors in the Grove*

*In case of inclement weather,  
outdoor services will move to the Multi-purpose room.*

**The Worship and Music Committee** is seeking volunteers to assist with setting up and tearing down the audio equipment for the outdoor worship services, beginning on June 20. 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!

**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!

**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 [stjohnsspinnerstown@gmail.com](mailto:stjohnsspinnerstown@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 [stjohnsspinnerstown@gmail.com](mailto:stjohnsspinnerstown@gmail.com) or to sponsor! Thank you in advance!

## **Worship Assistants**

*Usher Captain – Jerry Bassett*

### ***Lectors***

June 13 – Stephen Spry

June 20 – Bill Slotter

June 27 – Jerry Bassett

### ***Ushers***

June 13 – Steve & Maureen Potsko

June 20 – Bill & Mary Slotter

June 27 – Joe & Noel Brooke

### ***Altar Guild***

June – Janet Bassett & Karen Landes

## **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.*

## ***Coming to Indoor Worship***

### **Home:**

- Make sure that you and everyone you're going to church with is feeling well. Stay home if you're feeling sick.
- Download or print the bulletin if able.
- Pack your masks.

### **Entering:**

- Park your car in the main lot and put on your mask.
- Meet the greeter/usher outside the side entrance, who will welcome you and take your temperature with an infrared, contact-free thermometer.
- If you have a temperature of over 100 degrees, you will be asked to watch our online service at home.
- As you enter the church, there will be hand sanitizer available, and an usher will lead you and your family to a suitable space in our multipurpose room.
- The usher will keep track of your place in the sanctuary for the purposes of contact tracing.
- The usher will provide you and your family individual, sealed elements for Holy Communion when Holy Communion will be celebrated.

### **Worship:**

- We're asking everyone to keep their masks on during worship.
- We have an abbreviated service.
- *Singing is encouraged while wearing masks.*

### **Departure:**

- Pass the peace from a distance.
- Enjoy seeing your friends, and listen to the postlude.
- Depart in peace in an orderly fashion.