

Welcome to St. John's Evangelical Lutheran Church in Lancaster



Sunday Worship

Rev. Jamie Retallack
716-848-9683

Sunday of Pentecost
Sunday, May 24, 2026

The Prelude
The Greetings



Confession and Forgiveness

Blessed be the holy Trinity, one God,
the strength of our ancestors, the host of this meal,
the builder of the city that is to come. **Amen.**

If we have died with Christ, we will also live with Christ.
Let us confess our sin to the one who is faithful.

Silence for Prayer & Confession

God our helper,
we confess the many ways we have failed to live as your disciples. We have not finished what we began. We have feasted with friends but ignored strangers. We have been captivated by our possessions. Lift our burdens, gracious God. Refresh our hearts and forgive our sin. Raise us to the new life you have chosen for us in Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.

There is rejoicing in heaven when sinners repent. Put your trust in these promises: God will never leave you or forsake you. You who were lost have been found. For the sake of Jesus Christ, your sins are forgiven. Rejoice with the angels at this good news. **Amen.**

Hail Thee, Festival Day!



Hail thee, fes - ti - val day! Blest day to be hal - lowed for - ev - er;

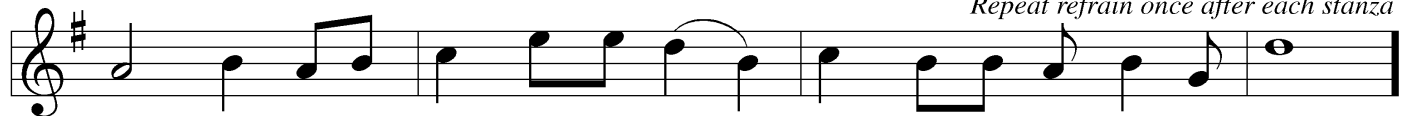


day when the Ho - ly Ghost shone in the world with his grace.

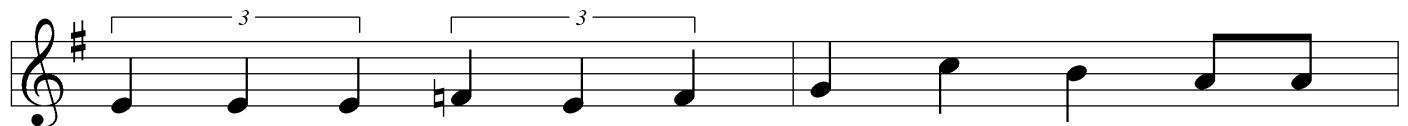


1 Bright and in like-ness of fire, on those who a - wait his ap - pear - ing,
 3 God the Al - might - y, the Lord, the rul - er of earth and the heav - ens
 5 Spir - it of life and of pow'r now flow in us, fount of our be - ing,

Repeat refrain once after each stanza



he whom the Lord had fore - told sud - den - ly, swift - ly de - scends:
 guard us from harm with - out; cleanse us from e - vil with - in:
 light that en - light - ens us all, life that in all may a - bide:



2 Dai - ly the love - li - ness grows, a - dorned with the
 4 Je - sus, the health of the world, en - light - en our
 6 Praise to the giv - er of good! O Lov - er and



glo - ry of blos - som; heav - en her gates un - bars,
 minds, great re - deem - er, Son of the Fa - ther su -
 Au - thor of con - cord, pour out your balm on our

Repeat refrain once after each stanza



fling - ing her in - crease of light:
 preme, on - ly be - got - ten of God:
 days; or - der our ways in your peace:

Text: Venantius Honorius Fortunatus, 530–609; tr. *Lutheran Book of Worship*, 1978
 Music: SALVE FESTA DIES, R. Vaughan Williams, 1872–1958

The Prayer of the Day

O God, on this day you open the hearts of your faithful people by sending into us your Holy Spirit. Direct us by the light of that Spirit, that we may have a right judgment in all things and rejoice at all times in your peace, through Jesus Christ, your Son and our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.



The First Reading Acts 2:1-21 (NRSVUE)

When the day of Pentecost had come, [the apostles] were all together in one place. And suddenly from heaven there came a sound like the rush of a violent wind, and it filled the entire house where they were sitting. Divided tongues, as of fire, appeared among them, and a tongue rested on each of them. All of them were filled with the Holy Spirit and began to speak in other languages, as the Spirit gave them ability.

Now there were devout Jews from every people under heaven living in Jerusalem. And at this sound the crowd gathered and was bewildered, because each one heard them speaking in the native language of each. Amazed and astonished, they asked, “Are not all these who are speaking Galileans? And how is it that we hear, each of us, in our own native language? Parthians, Medes, Elamites, and residents of Mesopotamia, Judea and Cappadocia, Pontus and Asia, Phrygia and Pamphylia, Egypt and the parts of Libya belonging to Cyrene, and visitors from Rome, both Jews and proselytes, Cretans and Arabs—in our own languages we hear them speaking about God’s deeds of power.” All were amazed and perplexed, saying to one another, “What does this mean?” But others sneered and said, “They are filled with new wine.”

But Peter, standing with the eleven, raised his voice and addressed them, “Fellow Jews and all who live in Jerusalem, let this be known to you, and listen to what I say. Indeed, these are not drunk, as you suppose, for it is only nine o’clock in the morning. No, this is what was spoken through the prophet Joel:

‘In the last days it will be, God declares,
that I will pour out my Spirit upon all flesh,
and your sons and your daughters shall prophesy,
and your young men shall see visions,
and your old men shall dream dreams.

Even upon my slaves, both men and women,
in those days I will pour out my Spirit, and they shall prophesy.

And I will show portents in the heaven above
and signs on the earth below, blood, and fire, and smoky mist.

The sun shall be turned to darkness and the moon to blood,
before the coming of the Lord’s great and glorious day.

Then everyone who calls on the name of the Lord shall be saved.’

This is the Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.



Psalm 104:24-34, 35b

(Read responsively)

How manifold are your works, O Lord!
In wisdom you have made them all;
the earth is full of your creatures.

**Yonder is the sea, great and wide,
with its swarms too many to number,
living things both small and great.**

There go the ships to and fro,
and Leviathan, which you made for the sport of it.

**All of them look to you
to give them their food in due season.**

You give it to them; they gather it; you open your hand,
and they are filled with good things.

**When you hide your face, they are terrified;
when you take away their breath,
they die and return to their dust.**

You send forth your Spirit, and they are created;
and so you renew the face of the earth.

**May the glory of the Lord endure forever;
O Lord, rejoice in all your works.**

You look at the earth and it trembles;
you touch the mountains and they smoke.

**I will sing to the Lord as long as I live;
I will praise my God while I have my being.**

May these words of mine please God.
I will rejoice in the Lord.

Bless the Lord, O my soul. Hallelujah!



The Second Reading
1 Corinthians 12:3b-13

No one can say “Jesus is Lord” except by the Holy Spirit.

Now there are varieties of gifts but the same Spirit, and there are varieties of services but the same Lord, and there are varieties of activities, but it is the same God who activates all of them in everyone. To each is given the manifestation of the Spirit for the common good. To one is given through the Spirit the utterance of wisdom and to another the utterance of knowledge according to the same Spirit, to another faith by the same Spirit, to another gifts of healing by the one Spirit, to another the working of powerful deeds, to another prophecy, to another the discernment of spirits, to another various kinds of tongues, to another the interpretation of tongues. All these are activated by one and the same Spirit, who allots to each one individually just as the Spirit chooses.

For just as the body is one and has many members, and all the members of the body, though many, are one body, so it is with Christ. For in the one Spirit we were all baptized into one body—Jews or Greeks, slaves or free—and we were all made to drink of one Spirit.

This is the Word of the Lord.
Thanks be to God.

The Alleluia

Al - le - lu - ia. Lord, to whom shall we go?

You have the words of e - ter - nal life. Al - le - lu - ia.

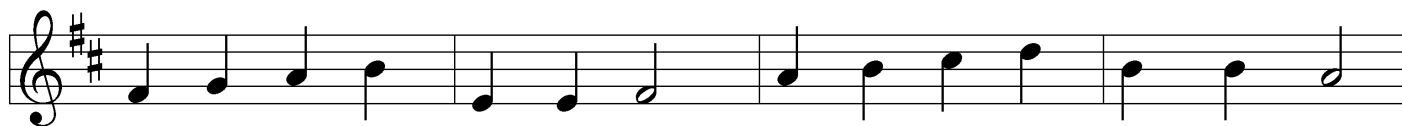
The Gospel Reading
John 20:19-23
Glory to you, O God.

When it was evening on that day, the first day of the week, and the doors were locked where the disciples were, for fear of the Jews, Jesus came and stood among them and said, “Peace be with you.” After he said this, he showed them his hands and his side. Then the disciples rejoiced when they saw the Lord. Jesus said to them again, “Peace be with you. As the Father has sent me, so I send you.” When he had said this, he breathed on them and said to them, “Receive the Holy Spirit. If you forgive the sins of any, they are forgiven them; if you retain the sins of any, they are retained.”

This is the Word of the Lord.
Praise to you, O Christ.



The Sermon
Pastor Jamie Retallack

Holy Spirit, Truth Divine

- 1 Ho - ly Spir - it, truth di - vine, dawn up - on this soul of mine;
 2 Ho - ly Spir - it, love di - vine, glow with - in this heart of mine;
 3 Ho - ly Spir - it, pow'r di - vine, for - ti - fy this will of mine;
 4 Ho - ly Spir - it, peace di - vine, still this rest - less heart of mine;
 5 Ho - ly Spir - it, right di - vine, king with - in my con - science reign;



word of God and in - ward light, wake my spir - it, clear my sight.
 kin - dle ev - 'ry high de - sire; purge me with your ho - ly fire.
 by your will I strong - ly live, brave - ly bear, and no - bly strive.
 speak to calm this toss - ing sea, stayed in your tran - quil - i - ty.
 be my guide, and I shall be firm - ly bound, for - ev - er free.

Text: Samuel Longfellow, 1819–1892, alt.

Music: SONG 13, Orlando Gibbons, 1583–1625



The Apostles' Creed

**I believe in God, the Father almighty,
creator of heaven and earth.
I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord.
He was conceived by the power of the Holy Spirit
and born of the virgin Mary.
He 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,
and is seated at the right hand of the Father.
He will come again 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.**

The Prayers of the Church

Merciful God, receive our prayer.

God of resurrection power, use us and these prayers
to proclaim the good news of new life to all the world,
through Jesus Christ, our risen Savior. **Amen.**

The Sharing of the Peace

The peace of the Lord be with you always.
And also with you.

The Offering

The Offering Music

The Offertory Hymn



- 1 Ac - cept, O Lord, the gifts we bring to place up - on your ta - ble.
- 2 The vines were plant - ed, seeds were sown. They grew in your good plea - sure.
- 3 Our hopes and dreams, our toils and cares we lift in prayer be - fore you.



We do not wor - ship as we ought but on - ly as we're a - ble.
What once was com - mon, dail - y food be - comes a ho - ly trea - sure.
Lord, by your grace now come to us, as hum - bly we a - dore you.

Text: Beth Bergeron Folkemer, b. 1957
Music: BARBARA ALLEN, English folk tune
Text © 1990 Augsburg Fortress

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The Offertory Prayer

Merciful God, accept the fruits of our labor, gathered to give you glory. You have set a table before us, a glimpse of that great day when we will hunger and thirst no more. Nourish us with the body and blood of Jesus, that goodness and mercy may follow us and bless the world you love. In the name of Jesus, **Amen.**

The Great Thanksgiving

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 God thanks and praise.

The 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. Fulfilling the promise of the resurrection, you pour out the fire of your Spirit, uniting in one body people of every nation and tongue. And so, with Mary Magdalene and Peter and all the witnesses of the resurrection, with earth and sea and all their creatures, and with angels and archangels, cherubim and seraphim, we praise your name and join their unending hymn:



The Sanctus

♩ Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow - er and
might, heav - en 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.

Words of Institution

In the night in which he was betrayed, our Lord Jesus took the bread, and after giving thanks He 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, poured out for you and for all people for the forgiveness of sin. Do this for the remembrance of me.

The Invitation

The Lamb of God



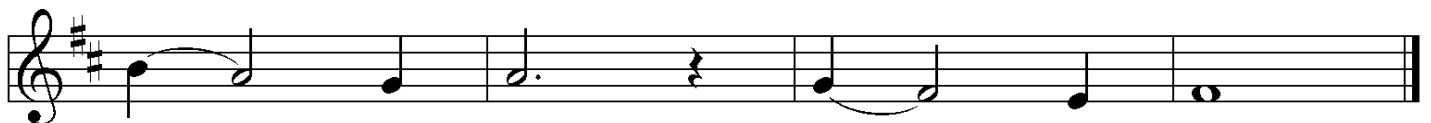
Lamb of God, you take a-way the sin of the world; have mer-cy on us.



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, grant us peace.

Celebration of First Communion

Communion Music
LBW 212, WOV 709

The Communion Blessing

May the body and blood of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ strengthen you and keep you in his grace. **Amen.**

The Lord's Prayer

*Lord remember us in your kingdom
and teach us to pray...*

**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.**

The Sending Prayer

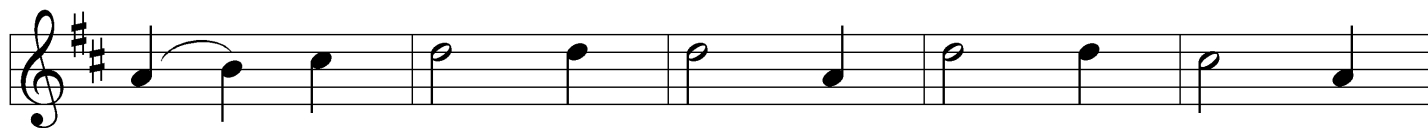
Holy One, through this meal you have made your home among us and are making all things new. Send us now to speak peace to anxious hearts, to love our enemies, and to bring your healing to the nations. In the name of Jesus, **Amen.**

The Benediction

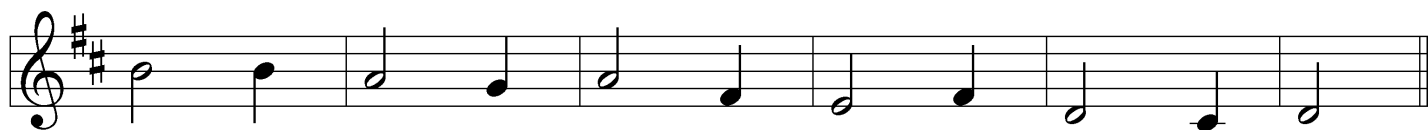
O Holy Spirit, Root of Life



1 O Ho - ly Spir - it, root of life, cre - a - tor,
 2 E - ter - nal Vig - or, Sav - ing One, you free us
 3 O ho - ly Wis - dom, soar - ing pow'r, en - com - pass



cleans - er of all things: a - noint our wounds, a -
 by your liv - ing Word, be - com - ing flesh to
 us with wings un - furled, and car - ry us, en -



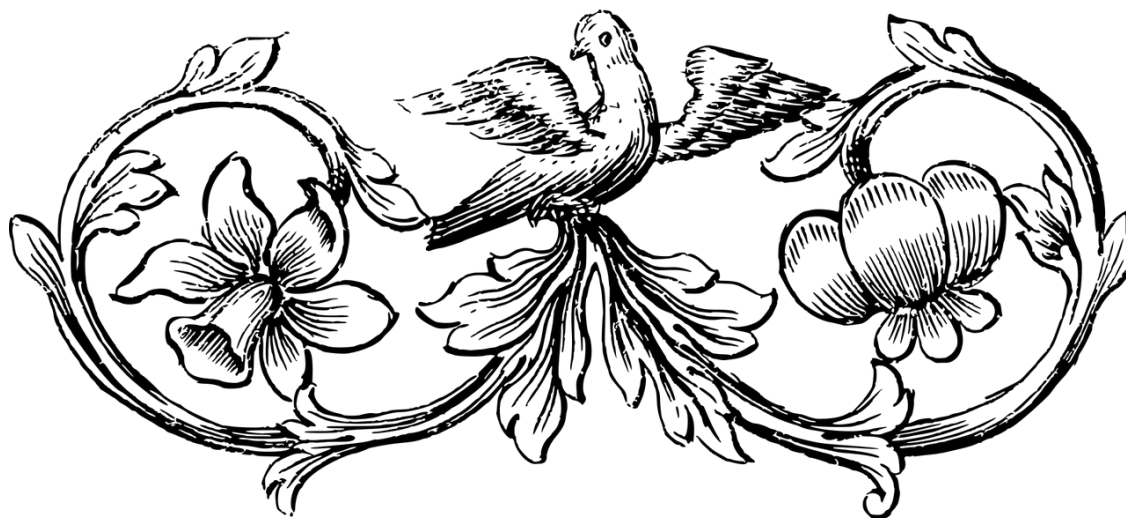
wak - en us with lus - trous move - ment of your wings.
 wear our pain, and all cre - a - tion is re - stored.
 cir - cling all a - bove, be - low, and through the world.

Text: Jean Janzen, b. 1933, based on Hildegard of Bingen, 1078–1179

Music: PUER NOBIS, European tune, 15th cent., adapt. Michael Praetorius, 1571–1621

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The Sending
 Go in peace. Praise the Lord. Alleluia!
Thanks be to God. Alleluia!

The People of St. John's Welcome You for Worship Today!

If you would like a **pastoral visit** for any reason, please call the office or call Pastor directly on his cell @ (716) 848-9683.

Office Hours:

St John's Lancaster M, W, Th 10am-3pm.

St John's Elma Tuesdays 10am-3pm.

Altar Guild: John & Amy Petrunyak

Deacon: RaeAnn Jakubowski

Ushers: Rich Rice & Daniel Rice

QR Code for Offering

Using your camera app you can scan the QR code to go to **St. John's donation page** where you can make a one-time or recurring **offering!** Thank you for giving!



Offering

5/17/2026

\$ 1811.0

Quarterly Statements available upon request.

If you would like to receive quarterly statements by mail, please let the office know.

Altar Flower Arrangements:

as of **January 1, 2026**, flower arrangements are **\$40 (for 2)**.

Available Flower Dates: May 31; June 7, 14, 21, 28

SAVE THE DATE

July 12 @ Lancaster. A small reception will be held to honor Pr. Jamie's 15 year Ordination Anniversary

The next Women's Fellowship Lunch is on June 10th @ 11:30am
@ St. John's Lancaster. Bring your own lunch. All are welcome!

BOOK CLUB

Please join us at the Conference Table downstairs in the Chapel Hall at St. John's Lancaster (using the ramp entrance) on Wednesday, June 24th at 2:30 PM to discuss the novel, THE KEEPER OF HAPPY ENDINGS by Barbara Davis.

B*I*N*G*O

Join us on Friday, June 19th in the Fellowship Hall for fun, fellowship and prizes! Free to play, and all ages welcome! Doors open at 6:30pm - bingo starts at 7:00pm.

Bingo chips, drinks and snacks will be available for anyone who doesn't bring their own!

Congregation Care Committee

will be meeting to cook on June 20th at 12:30pm. We are usually done in about 2 hours. Please join us! Everyone is welcome and all help is appreciated!

We lift up: Edna Mann, Tom Morse, Jackie Wolfram, Dave, Sara Hermsmeyer, Eoin Mast, Arden Kruger, Anna Hart, Kelly R., Bryce, Mary Anne, Paul Rudz, Rob Webster, Jake, Gloria Richards, Susan Thaesler, Don Spanitz, Ron Richards, Gavin, and Judy Reynolds

Collecting Dash's Register Receipts: Save your Dash's receipts and deposit them in the boxes in the Sanctuary or the Chapel to benefit Niagara Lutheran Health Services. Thank you!

Poppi's Pantry Will be closed on Memorial Day, May 25th, and will re-open on Monday, June 8th. From that date forward, Poppi's Pantry will be open the 2nd and 4th Mondays of the month from 11am-2pm.

Poppi's Pantry is serving this congregation and residents of the Lancaster Towers the **2nd and 4th Mondays of the month from 11-2**. Kindly consider donating time to help. There is a sign-up sheet on the door to the pantry. Thank you!

Poppi's Pantry is extremely grateful for all donations. If you are looking for donation ideas, **the pantry is in need of cereal, ready-to-eat soups and pasta sauces**. You may also consider: canned meats (chicken, spam), canned meals (Hash, stew), canned fruit (sugar free too), and single serving pudding or gelatin cups (including sugar free), Thank you!

Women of St. John's Elma & Lancaster

in the month of May, both churches will be collecting NEW socks of all sizes, men, women, and children **for the Buffalo City Mission**. It is a basic need that many folks would appreciate. So next time you are out shopping or ordering online, please consider picking up a pair or two of new socks. We will have baskets available when you bring them to church. Thank you!

Grape juice & gluten free wafers are available for **Communion**

First Communion Blessings

Jackson Press
Cece Rajczak
Will Reformat
Quinn Salge

Follow us on Facebook [@stjohnslancaster](#)

This Week at-a-Glance

Sunday, May 24, 2026

Event	Time	Location
Bible Study	9:00am	Memorial Lounge
Joysingers	9:30am	
Sunday School	10:00am	
Worship/First Communion	10:00am	Sanctuary
Choir Practice	11:05am - 11:20am	Choir Room - Off of the Chapel Downstairs

Monday, May 25, 2026

Event	Time	Location
Church Office Hours	10:00am - 3:00pm	Church Office
Guiding Eyes	5:00pm - 7:30pm	Fellowship Hall
Girl Scouts	6:00pm	Fellowship Hall

Tuesday, May 26, 2026

Event	Time	Location
Council Meeting	7:00pm	Chapel - Conference Area
NA Meeting	7:00pm	Fellowship Hall

Wednesday, May 27, 2026

Event	Time	Location
Church Office Hours	10:00am - 3:00pm	Church Office

Thursday, May 28, 2026

Event	Time	Location
Church Office Hours	10:00am - 3:00pm	Church Office
Bible Study	1:00pm	Chapel - Conference Area
Handbell Practice	6:30pm	Balcony

Friday, May 29, 2026

Event	Time	Location
Court St Bike Bus	8:30am	Parking Lot

Saturday, May 30, 2026

Event	Time	Location
In Person Service	5:30pm	Chapel

Sunday, May 31, 2026

Event	Time	Location
Bible Study	9:00am	Memorial Lounge
Joysingers	9:30am	
In Person/ Online Service	10:00am	Sanctuary
Sunday School	10:00am	
Choir Practice	11:05am - 11:20am	Choir Room - Off of the Chapel Downstairs
Confirmation Class	11:15am	

MISSION STATEMENT

St. John's Evangelical Lutheran Church provides an inviting environment for spreading God's Word through worship, teaching, and fellowship to address the spiritual needs of our congregation and community.
Open - Inviting - Alive in Christ!

Pastor Rev. Jamie Retallack (716-848-9683)
Pastors Emeriti -Rev. John Swanson -Rev. John Scarafia
St. John's Evangelical Lutheran Church
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Office 683-8972 (Mon-Wed-Thurs 10am-3pm)
www.stjohnslanc.org
stjohnslancaster55@gmail.com

Congregation Council

Janet Sincebaugh (President)
Carol Graham (Vice-President)
Karen McClintock (Secretary)
Kathryn Snyder (Treasurer)

Pauline Bauer	Jeff Miller
Tom Frost	Rich Rice
Sam Gierlinger	Paul Rudz
RaeAnn Jakubowski	Kelly Sieracki
Marjorie Kruger	

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Prayers of Intercession

Trusting in the power of Christ's resurrection to heal and redeem our broken world, let us pray for the needs of all creation.

A brief silence.

O God, you send the Holy Spirit to gather your church into one. Inspire all ministers of the gospel to speak prophetic and hope-filled words to all whom they encounter. Bless the work of interreligious dialogue. Merciful God,
receive our prayer.

You send the Holy Spirit to renew the face of the earth. Protect all living things, bring forth clean water and abundant food, and grant us wonder as we contemplate all you have made. Merciful God,
receive our prayer.

You send the Holy Spirit to break down the barriers of communication among nations. Bestow peace in war-torn areas, guide all in government and society to work for justice, and guard those serving in the armed forces, especially this weekend as we remember those who died in service to their country. Merciful God,
receive our prayer.

You send the Holy Spirit to accompany those who feel abandoned. Provide food for those who hunger and drink for those who thirst, soothe those who are anxious or bereaved, comfort those who are sick or suffering, and answer all who call upon your name (especially Edna Mann, Tom Morse, Jackie Wolfram, Dave, Sara Hermsmeyer, Eoin Mast, Arden Kruger, Anna Hart, Kelly R., Bryce, Mary Anne, Paul Rudz, Rob Webster, Jake, Gloria Richards, Susan Thaesler, Don Spanitz, Ron Richards, Gavin, and Judy Reynolds). Merciful God,
receive our prayer.

You send the Holy Spirit through the gift of baptism. Bless both those preparing for or affirming their baptism. May they be encouraged by this community of faith as they live out their baptismal promises. Merciful God,
receive our prayer.

Here other intercessions may be offered.

You send the Holy Spirit to console us in our grief. We give you thanks for our ancestors in the faith (*especially scientists Nicolaus Copernicus and Leonard Euler*) whose witness to your mighty works continues to inspire our lives. Merciful God,
receive our prayer.

God of resurrection power, use us and these prayers to proclaim the good news of new life to all the world, through Jesus Christ, our risen Savior. **Amen.**