

St. John's Evangelical Lutheran Church  
July 7, 2024

**ST. JOHN'S EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH**  
106 Scheid Road, Sandusky, OH 44870  
(419) 625-2192 www.stjohnlcsandusky.com  
Sanctuary Worship 9:30 a.m. Live streamed to Facebook

**Stacy Lauer-Scovanner, Pastor**

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**July 7, 2024      Seventh Sunday after Pentecost**

Welcome to Worship! Jesus does great deeds of power and gives his disciples authority over demons. Yet none of this power is unilateral; it all must be received by faith. Jesus asks his disciples to go out without money or supplies, so that they will be dependent on how others receive them. When we are sent from the assembly to witness and to heal, we are asked to be vulnerable, to be dependent on the reception of others. The Spirit always operates in the “between”: between Jesus and his Abba, between Jesus and us, between you and me, between us and those to whom we are sent.

As Lutheran Christians, we believe and teach that Christ is truly present in the celebration of Holy Communion as he is God with us. Christians of all denominations are encouraged to come to the Lord’s table. We commune children of any age who have received communion instruction at St. John or another Christian church. Children who have not yet received communion instruction will receive a blessing. Both red wine and white grape juice are offered to accommodate various traditions. Gluten free wafers are provided for those with dietary restrictions. Please make the pastor aware of your need.

We welcome and thank Pastor Kathy Shuck for leading our worship this morning while Pastor Stacy is on sabbatical. Thank you to Nathan Samsa for sharing his gift of music today. If you are visiting today, please sign the guest register after worship. Plan to worship with us again next Sunday.

Bells

Welcome and announcements

Prelude

*“Heroic Theme”* Johannes Brahms/arr. Lani Smth  
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*Please stand if you are able*

**Gathering**

The Holy Spirit calls us together as the people of God.

**Confession And Forgiveness**

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

**Amen.**

God of all mercy and consolation, come to the help of your people, turning us from our sin to live for you alone. Give us the power of your Holy Spirit that we may confess our sin, receive your forgiveness, and grow into the fullness of Jesus Christ, our Savior and 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 Hymn**

*“How Firm a Foundation”*

ELW 796

Text: J. Rippon, *A Selection of Hymns*, 1787, alt. Music: Early American Public Domain

1 How firm a foundation, O saints of the Lord,  
is laid for your faith in Christ Jesus, the Word!  
What more can he say than to you he has said  
who unto the Savior for refuge have fled?

2 "Fear not, I am with you, oh, be not dismayed,  
for I am your God and will still give you aid;  
I'll strengthen you, help you, and cause you to stand,  
upheld by my righteous, omnipotent hand."

3 "When through fiery trials your pathway shall  
lie,  
my grace, all-sufficient, shall be your supply.  
The flames shall not hurt you; I only design  
your dross to consume and your gold to refine."

4 "Throughout all their lifetime my people shall  
prove  
my sov'reign, eternal, unchangeable love;  
and then, when gray hairs shall their temples adorn,  
like lambs they shall still in my bosom be borne."

### **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.**

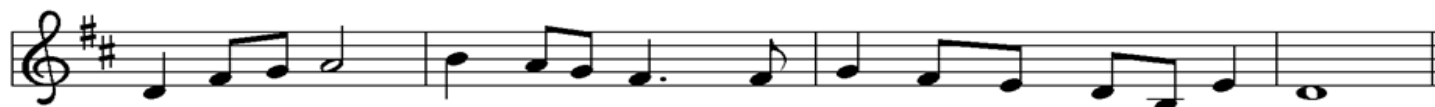
Canticle of Praise

“Glory to God”

*Refrain*



Glo-ry to God, glo-ry to God, glo-ry to God in the high - est;



glo-ry to God, glo - ry to God, and peace to God's peo-ple on earth.



1 Lord God, heav-en-ly King, al - might-y God and Fa - ther, we



wor-ship you, we give you thanks, we praise you for your glo - ry.

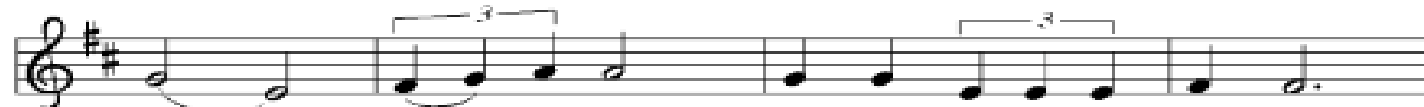
*Refrain*



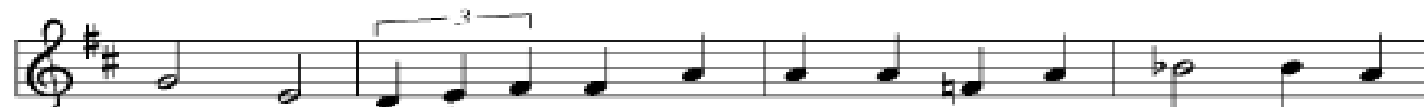
Glo-ry to God, glo-ry to God, glo-ry to God in the high - est;



glo-ry to God, glo - ry to God, and peace to God's peo-ple on earth.



2 Lord Je - sus Christ, on - ly Son of the Fa - ther,



Lord God, Lamb of God, you take a - way the sin of the



world: have mer - cy on us; you are seat - ed at the



right hand of the Fa - ther: re - ceive our prayer.

*Refrain*

Glo-ry to God, glo-ry to God, glo-ry to God in the high - est;  
glo-ry to God, glo - ry to God, and peace to God's peo-ple on earth.

3 For you a-lone are the Ho - ly One, you a - lone are the Lord,  
you a - lone are the Most High, Je - sus Christ, with the Ho - ly  
Spir-it, in the glo - ry of God the Fa - ther. A - men.

*Final refrain*

Glo-ry to God, glo-ry to God, glo-ry to God in the high - est;  
glo-ry to God, glo - ry to God, and peace to God's peo-ple on  
earth, and peace to God's peo - ple on earth.

## Prayer of the Day

Let us pray.

God of the covenant, in our baptism you call us to proclaim the coming of your kingdom. Give us the courage you gave the apostles, that we may faithfully witness to your love and peace in every circumstance of life, in the name of Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.

*Please be seated*

### **First Reading: Ezekiel 2:1-5**

A reading from Ezekiel.

*In 597 BCE, the priest Ezekiel was removed into exile in Babylon. While there, he received a vision of God appearing majestically on a chariot throne. Today's reading recounts God's commissioning of Ezekiel during this vision. The prophet is to speak God's word to a people unwilling to hear.*

<sup>1</sup>[A voice] said to me: O mortal, stand up on your feet, and I will speak with you.<sup>2</sup>And when he spoke to me, a spirit entered into me and set me on my feet; and I heard him speaking to me. <sup>3</sup>He said to me, Mortal, I am sending you to the people of Israel, to a nation of rebels who have rebelled against me; they and their ancestors have transgressed against me to this very day. <sup>4</sup>The descendants are impudent and stubborn. I am sending you to them, and you shall say to them, "Thus says the Lord GOD." <sup>5</sup>Whether they hear or refuse to hear (for they are a rebellious house), they shall know that there has been a prophet among them.

The word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

### **Psalm: Psalm 123 (Read responsively)**

<sup>1</sup>To you I lift up my eyes,

to you enthroned in the heavens.

**<sup>2</sup>As the eyes of servants look to the hand of their masters, and the eyes of a maid to the hand of her mistress,**

**so our eyes look to you, O LORD our God, until you show us your mercy.**

<sup>3</sup>Have mercy upon us, O LORD, have mercy,

for we have had more than enough of contempt,

**<sup>4</sup>too much of the scorn of the indolent rich,**

**and of the derision of the proud.**

### **Second Reading: 2 Corinthians 12:2-10**

A reading from 2 Corinthians.

*Christians do not boast of their own accomplishments. Rather, Christian boasting focuses attention on how the power of Christ is present in our lives, especially in times of weakness and vulnerability. No matter what our circumstances in life, Christ's grace is sufficient for us.*

<sup>2</sup>I know a person in Christ who fourteen years ago was caught up to the third heaven—whether in the body or out of the body I do not know; God knows. <sup>3</sup>And I know that such a person—whether in the body or out of the body I do not know; God knows—<sup>4</sup>was caught up into Paradise and heard things that are not to be told, that no mortal is

permitted to repeat. <sup>5</sup>On behalf of such a one I will boast, but on my own behalf I will not boast, except of my weaknesses. <sup>6</sup>But if I wish to boast, I will not be a fool, for I will be speaking the truth. But I refrain from it, so that no one may think better of me than what is seen in me or heard from me, <sup>7</sup>even considering the exceptional character of the revelations. Therefore, to keep me from being too elated, a thorn was given me in the flesh, a messenger of Satan to torment me, to keep me from being too elated. <sup>8</sup>Three times I appealed to the Lord about this, that it would leave me, <sup>9</sup>but he said to me, “My grace is sufficient for you, for power is made perfect in weakness.” So, I will boast all the more gladly of my weaknesses, so that the power of Christ may dwell in me. <sup>10</sup>Therefore I am content with weaknesses, insults, hardships, persecutions, and calamities for the sake of Christ; for whenever I am weak, then I am strong.

The word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

*Please stand*

### Gospel Acclamation

Al - le - lu - ia. Lord, to whom shall we go? Al - le -  
 lu - ia. You have the words of e - ter - nal life.  
 Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.

### Gospel: Mark 6:1-13

The holy gospel according to Mark.

**Glory to you, O Lord.**

*At home and abroad, Jesus and his disciples encounter resistance as they seek to proclaim God's word and relieve affliction.*

<sup>1</sup>[Jesus] came to his hometown, and his disciples followed him.<sup>2</sup>On the sabbath he began to teach in the synagogue, and many who heard him were astounded. They said, “Where did this man get all this? What is this wisdom that has been given to him? What deeds of power are being done by his hands! <sup>3</sup>Is not this the carpenter, the son of Mary and brother of James and Joses and Judas and Simon, and are not his sisters here with us?” And they took offense at him. <sup>4</sup>Then Jesus said to them, “Prophets are not without honor, except in their hometown, and among their own kin, and in their own house.” <sup>5</sup>And he could do no deed of power there, except that he laid his hands on a few sick people and cured them. <sup>6</sup>And he was amazed at their unbelief.

Then he went about among the villages teaching. <sup>7</sup>He called the twelve and began to send them out two by two, and gave them authority over the unclean spirits. <sup>8</sup>He ordered them to take nothing for their journey except a staff; no bread, no bag, no money in their belts; <sup>9</sup>but to wear sandals and not to put on two tunics. <sup>10</sup>He said to them, “Wherever you enter a house, stay there until you leave the place. <sup>11</sup>If any place will not welcome you and they refuse to hear you, as you leave, shake off the dust that is on your feet as a testimony against them.” <sup>12</sup>So they went out and proclaimed that all should repent. <sup>13</sup>They cast out many demons, and anointed with oil many who were sick and cured them.

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

*Please be seated.*

## Sermon

*Please stand if you are able*

**Pastor Kathy Shuck**

## Hymn of the Day

*“We Are Called”*

ELW 720

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Come! Live in the light!  
Shine with the joy and the love of the Lord!  
We are called to be light for the kingdom,  
to live in the freedom of the city of God.

### Refrain

We are called to act with justice,  
we are called to love tenderly;  
we are called to serve one another,  
to walk humbly with God.

Come! Open your heart!  
Show your mercy to all those in fear!  
We are called to be hope for the hopeless  
so hatred and blindness will be no more.  
Refrain

Sing! Sing a new song!  
Sing of that great day when all will be one!  
God will reign, and we'll walk with each other  
as sisters and brothers united in love.  
Refrain



## **The 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.**

Or, "he descended into hell," another translation of this text in widespread use.

## **Prayers of the people:**

**Response:** In your mercy,                      **hear our prayer.**

## **Peace**

The peace of Christ be with you always.

**And also with you.**

*Please be seated*

## **Offering**

*"I Am Happy"* Will H. Ruebush  
© 1918 Levi Mumaw Used by Permission

*Please stand if you are able*

## **Offering**

*"He Has Made Me Glad"*  
. © 1976 Maranatha! Music, admin. The Copyright Company

I will enter His gates with thanksgiving in my heart;

I will enter His courts with praise.

I will say this is the day that the Lord has made.

I will rejoice for He has made me glad.

He has made me glad, He has made me glad,

I will rejoice for He has made me glad.

He has made me glad, He has made me glad,

I will rejoice for He has made me glad.

## **Offering Prayer**

Let us pray.

God of all creation, all you have made is good, and your love endures forever. You bring forth bread from the earth and fruit from the vine. Nourish us with these gifts, that we might be for the world signs of your gracious presence in Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

**Amen.**

## **Great Thanksgiving**

### **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.**

## **Thanksgiving At The Table**

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.

## **The Lord's Prayer**

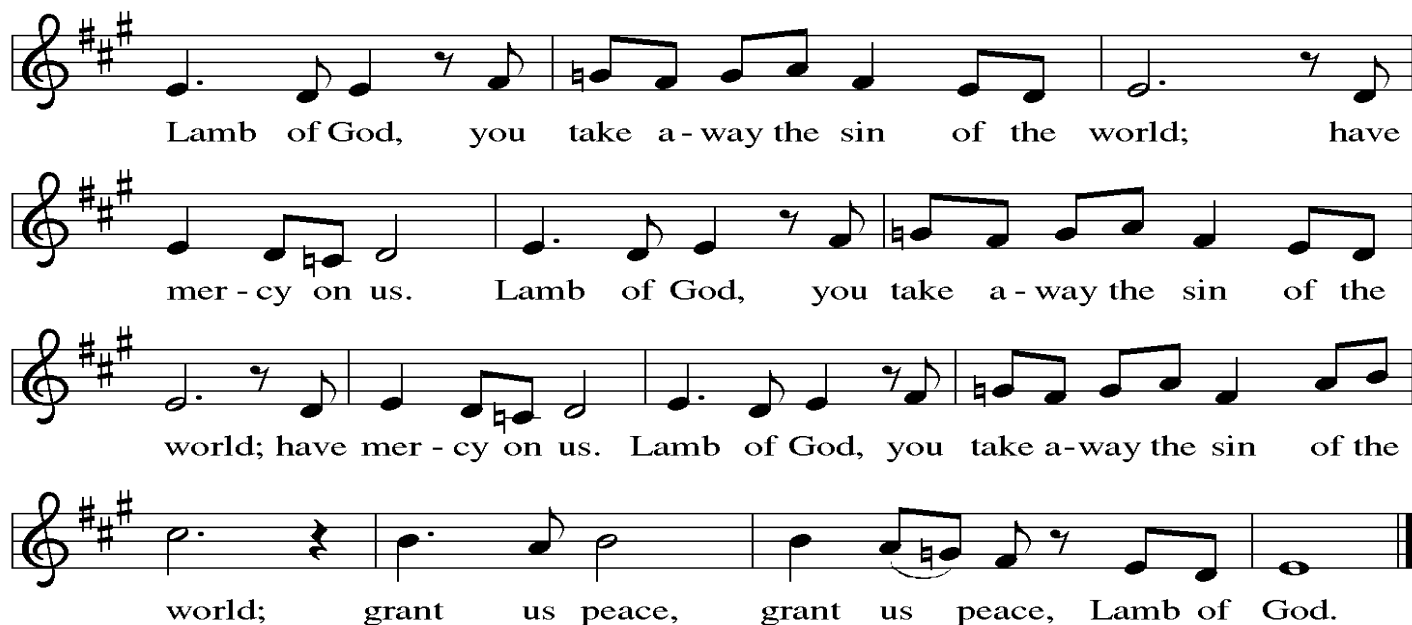
Gathered into one by the Holy Spirit, let us pray as Jesus taught us.

**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

Taste and see that the Lord is good.

## Communion Song



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, Lamb of God.

## Distribution Hymn

*“Break Now the Bread of Life”*

ELW 515

Text: Mary A. Lathbury, 1841–1913, alt.

Music: William F. Sherwin, 1826–1888

1 Break now the bread of life,  
dear Lord, to me,  
as once you broke the loaves beside the sea.  
Beyond the sacred page  
I seek you, Lord;  
my spirit waits for you,  
O living Word.

2 Bless your own word of truth,  
dear Lord, to me,  
as when you blessed the bread by Galilee.  
Then shall all bondage cease,  
all fetters fall;  
and I shall find my peace,  
my All-in-All!

3 You are the bread of life,  
dear Lord, to me,  
your holy word the truth that rescues me.  
Give me to eat and live

with you above;  
teach me to love your truth,  
for you are love.

## Distribution Hymn

*“The King of Love My Shepherd Is”*

ELW 502

Text: Henry W. Baker, 1821–1877 Music: Irish tune

1 The King of love my shepherd is,  
whose goodness faileth never;  
I nothing lack if I am his  
and he is mine forever.

2 Where streams of living water flow,  
my ransomed soul he leadeth  
and, where the verdant pastures grow,  
with food celestial feedeth.

3 Perverse and foolish oft I strayed,  
but yet in love he sought me,  
and on his shoulder gently laid,  
and home, rejoicing, brought me.

4 In death's dark vale I fear no ill,  
with thee, dear Lord, beside me,  
thy rod and staff my comfort still;  
thy cross before to guide me.

5 Thou spreadst a table in my sight;  
thine unction grace bestoweth;  
and, oh, what transport of delight  
from thy pure chalice floweth!

6 And so, through all the length of days,  
thy goodness faileth never.  
Good Shepherd, may I sing thy praise  
within thy house forever.

### **Post Communion Blessing**

The body and blood of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ strengthen you and keep you in His care.

**Amen**

### **Prayer After Communion**

Let us pray.

O God, we give you thanks that you have set before us this feast, the body and blood of your Son. By your Spirit strengthen us to serve all in need and to give ourselves away as bread for the hungry, through Jesus Christ our Lord.

**Amen.**

### **Sending**

God blesses us and sends us in mission to the world.

### **Blessing**

The Lord bless you and keep you. The Lord's face shine on you with grace and mercy. The Lord look upon you with favor and give you peace.

**Amen**

### **Sending Hymn**

*"We All Are One in Mission"*

ELW 576

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1 We all are one in mission;  
we all are one in call,  
our varied gifts united  
by Christ, the Lord of all.  
A single great commission  
compels us from above  
to plan and work together  
that all may know Christ's love.

2 We all are called for service,  
to witness in God's name.  
Our ministries are different;  
our purpose is the same:  
to touch the lives of others  
with God's surprising grace,  
so ev'ry folk and nation  
may feel God's warm embrace.

3 Now let us be united,  
and let our song be heard.  
Now let us be a vessel  
for God's redeeming Word.

We all are one in mission;  
we all are one in call,  
our varied gifts united  
by Christ, the Lord of all.

### **Dismissal**

Go in peace. Serve the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

### **Postlude**

*"We All Are One in Mission"*

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St. John's Evangelical Lutheran Church is:

***"A Family of Disciples, Faithfully Making Christ Known"***

**And a congregation of the**

**Evangelical Lutheran Church in America (ELCA)**

## PEOPLE OF ST. JOHN'S, MINISTERS

Stacy Lauer-Scovanner, Pastor Church: 419-625-2192  
Sabbatical Emergency Contact: Melinda Zorn 412-639-5477  
Mrs. Sandy Thompson, Admin. 419-625-2192  
Today's Musician: Nathan Samsa E-mail: Sandy8110@gmail.com  
Usher: Jeff Justi Lay Reader: Carolyn Steinfeldt  
Communion Assistant: Sandy Thompson  
Audio/Visual Tech: Jon Baaske Attendance: June 30 - 46  
Website: [www.stjohnlcsandusky.com](http://www.stjohnlcsandusky.com)  
Like us on Facebook: St. John's Lutheran Church, Sandusky

### 2024: The Year of Rest Memory Verse

**"So then, a sabbath rest still remains for the people of God"** Hebrews 4:9

**The altar flowers** are given to the glory of God by Paula Hoffman Laws as we celebrate the blessing of freedom that was given to us by Christ.

**Council asks the congregation to pray** for Pastor Stacy and her family as they travel for sabbatical. We pray that Pastor feels renewed, refreshed, and refilled with the Holy Spirit and that our congregation does the same, that together we may rededicate ourselves to doing God's work in the world.

### **Communion Clean-up today:** Jim Kluding

July 14 – Set-up – Joleen Dillender Cleanup – Sandy Thompson

July 21 – Set-up – Elizabeth Libben Cleanup – Elizabeth Libben

July 28 - Set-up - Toni Nossaman Cleanup –

Thank you for your willingness to help with this important ministry. If you would like to help out, please see Toni Nossaman, Joleen Dillender or Sandy Thompson.

**Pastor Stacy returns to worship on Sunday, July 21<sup>st</sup>.** A sabbatical welcome home luncheon will follow worship so we can share stories and rejoice at being back together. The luncheon will be held at the Legacy Center, 1522 E Perkins Ave. Sandusky at 11:00 am. Please make a reservation on the sign-up sheet in the back of the sanctuary. It is very important that we have an approximate number since the luncheon will be catered.

**Sabbatical Thanks:** Thank you so much to everyone who is helping with things while I am on sabbatical. I hope this will be a time for us all to pause, reflect, and give thanks for

the ministry that we get to do together. I will be holding each of you in my prayers as we journey and learn. Thank you so much. **Pastor Stacy**

**Sabbatical Pastoral EMERGENCIES:** Melinda Zorn volunteered to receive **EMERGENCY** calls from the members of St. John’s during Pastor Stacy’s sabbatical. Three pastors have agreed to be on-call to cover a visit/pray with, or call back to the person. Please call 412-639-5477, Melinda Zorn will then contact a pastor to help with your emergency.

**Endowment Grant Applications** are being accepted: please contact a member of the endowment team and they will be glad to mail you an application. The requests need to be presented to the Endowment committee no later than October 7, 2024. You can mail the application back to the church, put your request in the endowment mailbox in the basement or present it to any member of the committee. The committee members are John Miller, Ted Call, Jeff Justi, Bob Stacy, Colleen Girard, Ron Zorn, Pastor Stacy . If you have any questions, please see a member of the endowment committee.

The Endowment Team will hold its quarterly meeting in mid to late October, at which time all grant applications that have been presented will be reviewed and voted on. Those that are approved will be sent to the Finance Team for additional review and approval.

**Happy Anniversary** to Marcia & Tom Dawson, David and Sofia Young, and Brad & Joleen Dillender.

**ST. JOHN’S CALENDAR FOR JULY 7<sup>TH</sup> THRU JULY 21<sup>ST</sup>**

Sunday, July 7	9:30 am	Worship, Pastor Kathy Shuck
Tuesday, July 9	9:00 am	Giving Garden Weeding/Fellowship
Sunday, July 14	9:30 am	Worship, Pastor Phil Gardner
Tuesday, July 16	9:00 am	Giving Garden Weeding/Fellowship
Sunday, July 21	9:30 am 11:00 am	Worship Pastor Stacy returns Sabbatical welcome home luncheon at the Legacy Center

**New ministry lists posted!** Thank you to the members who have helped as lay readers, communion assistants and ushers. The third quarter lists are now posted and waiting for you to sign-up

**Weekly Verse: The righteous know the needs of their animals, but the mercy of the wicked is cruel. Proverbs 12:10**

- July 7 – Schedule a break today.  
8 – Close your eyes & listen for the sounds around you.  
9 – Spend time with your pet or noticing creation.  
10 – Connect with someone who is kind.  
11 – Spend some time writing or drawing.  
12 – Write a thank you note to someone.  
13 – Do something you enjoy that requires movement.

**God's Work Our Hands Project for 2024!** We begin our drive to collect personal care kit items for our Rally Day Project. Please read the following list of items to be included in the care kits. **LW Relief is very specific on what items are needed.** Dollar General has lightweight towels in the correct size. **In 2022 we made 60 kits to send to LW Relief. Let's work to make 75 or more kits this year!** A printed sheet is available in the back of the sanctuary for your convenience.

- One** lightweight bath-size towel (between 20"x40" and 52"x27"), dark color recommended  
**Two** or three bath-size bars of soap equaling 8 to 9 oz. any brand, in original wrapping  
**One** adult-size toothbrush in its original packaging (toothbrush multi-packs may be used by sealing an individual toothbrush in a business-size envelope; no plastic bags or wrap  
**One** sturdy comb, remove packaging  
**One** metal nail clippers (attached file optional), remove packaging

### **Prayers for St. John's:**

Greetings in the Name of the Holy, Trinity,

Every Sunday our congregation (St. Paul Evangelical Luth. Church, Jenera, OH) lifts up in prayer a congregation of the Northwestern Ohio Synod of the ELCA, and her pastor. It is our hope that God will bless the congregation in a special way—a way in which it has been praying for help or guidance.

On this Sunday, June 30<sup>th</sup>, we prayed for you and God's people at Saint John's Lutheran. May God hear our prayer.

In Christ's Love,  
Deb Noll  
Synod Authorized Minister  
St. Paul Lutheran Church  
Jenera, OH