

# *St. John's Lutheran Church*

*April 7, 2024*



## ***STEPPING OUT***

***Thank you for worshipping with us today.***

**[www.stjohnssinkingvalley.com](http://www.stjohnssinkingvalley.com)**

PO Box 222  
Tyrone, PA 16686

\* = Please stand as you are able

The Call to Worship on the Bells

Lighting of Candles: Acolyte – Emily Pedersen

The Announcements/Birthday Celebrations/Anniversary Recognitions

Organ Prelude –

*Opening Prayer*

**\*The Opening Hymn –**

**In the Cross of Christ I Glory (LBW #104)**

**\*Call to Worship**

L: What great joy we have!

**P: Our Lord is risen!**

L: Believe with your whole heart in the miracle of resurrection.

**P: We open our hearts to the good news of God's faithfulness to us.**

L: Hallelujah!

**P: Hallelujah!**

L: This is the good news which we proclaim!

**P: Jesus Christ is raised from the dead!**

L: Walk in the light of his love.

**P: Live in the light of his teachings and healing mercies.**

L: Come, let us worship the One Who overcame death.

**P: Let us celebrate the triumph of our Lord. AMEN.**

L: God, in His steadfast love and through the Salvation of His Son, Jesus, makes us His Children. Walking in the assurance that we are part of the body of Christ, let us confess our faith in Him.

**\*The Apostle's 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.**

\*L: The Lord be with you.

**C: And also with you.**

**Offertory**

**\*Offertory Response**

**The Doxology**

**\* Prayer of Thanksgiving**

*The Liturgy of the Word – Madison Harper*

*Today's Old Testament Lesson comes from the book of Daniel*

**Daniel 3:15-25**

15 Now when you hear the sound of the horn, flute, zither, lyre, harp, pipe and all kinds of music, if you are ready to fall down and worship the image I made, very good. But if you do not worship it, you will be thrown immediately into a blazing furnace. Then what god will be able to rescue you from my hand?" 16 Shadrach, Meshach and Abednego replied to him, "King Nebuchadnezzar, we do not need to defend ourselves before you in this matter. 17 If we are thrown into the blazing furnace, the God we serve is able to deliver us from it, and he will deliver us from Your Majesty's hand. 18 But even if he does not, we want you to know, Your Majesty, that we will not serve your gods or worship the image of gold you have set up." 19 Then Nebuchadnezzar was furious with Shadrach, Meshach and Abednego, and his attitude toward them changed. He ordered the furnace heated seven times hotter than usual 20 and commanded some of the strongest soldiers in his army to tie up Shadrach, Meshach and Abednego and throw them into the blazing furnace.

21 So these men, wearing their robes, trousers, turbans and other clothes, were bound and thrown into the blazing furnace. 22 The king's command was so urgent and the furnace so hot that the flames of the fire killed the soldiers who took up Shadrach, Meshach and Abednego, 23 and these three men, firmly tied, fell into the blazing furnace. 24 Then King Nebuchadnezzar leaped to his feet in amazement and asked his advisers, "Weren't there three men that we tied up and threw into the fire?" They replied, "Certainly, Your Majesty." 25 He said, "Look! I see four men walking around in the fire, unbound and unharmed, and the fourth **looks like a son of the gods**"

L: The Word of the Lord.

**C: Thanks be to God.**

*Today's New Testament Lesson comes from the book of 1 John*

**1 John 5:1-12**

1 Everyone who believes that Jesus is the Christ is born of God, and everyone who loves the father loves his child as well. 2 This is how we know that we love the children of God: by loving God and carrying out his commands. 3 In fact, this is love for God: to keep his commands. And his commands are not burdensome, 4 for everyone born of God overcomes the world. This is the victory that has overcome the world, even our faith. 5 Who is it that overcomes the world? Only the one who believes that Jesus is the Son of God. 6 This is the one who came by water and blood—Jesus Christ. He did not come by water only, but by water and blood. And it is the Spirit who testifies, because the Spirit is the truth. 7 For there are three that testify: 8 the Spirit, the water and the blood; and the three are in agreement. 9 We accept human testimony, but God's testimony is greater because it is the testimony of God, which he has given about his Son. 10 Whoever believes in the Son of God accepts this testimony. Whoever does not believe God has made him out to be a liar, because they have not believed the testimony God has given about his Son. 11 And this is the testimony: God has given us eternal life, and this life is in his Son. 12 Whoever has the Son has life; whoever does not have the Son of God does not have life.

L: The Word of the Lord

**C: Thanks be to God.**

**\*The Gospel Response –**

\*L: The Holy Gospel according to Matthew

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

Matthew 14:22-33

22 Immediately Jesus made the disciples get into the boat and go on ahead of him to the other side, while he dismissed the crowd. 23 After he had dismissed them, he went up on a mountainside by himself to pray. Later

that night, he was there alone, 24 and the boat was already a considerable distance from land, buffeted by the waves because the wind was against it. 25 Shortly before dawn Jesus went out to them, walking on the lake. 26 When the disciples saw him walking on the lake, they were terrified. "It's a ghost," they said, and cried out in fear. 27 But Jesus immediately said to them: "Take courage! It is I. Don't be afraid." 28 "Lord, if it's you," Peter replied, "tell me to come to you on the water." 29 "Come," he said. Then Peter got down out of the boat, walked on the water and came toward Jesus. 30 But when he saw the wind, he was afraid and, beginning to sink, cried out, "Lord, save me!" 31 Immediately Jesus reached out his hand and caught him. "You of little faith," he said, "why did you doubt?" 32 And when they climbed into the boat, the wind died down. 33 Then those who were in the boat worshiped him, saying, "Truly you are the Son of God."

L: The Gospel of the Lord

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

*Message –*

**The Storm Subsides- Truly, You Are the Son of God!**

\*Hymn –

**At the Cross (see bulletin)**

\*The Prayers

\*The Lord's Prayer

\*Hymn –

**He Lives (see bulletin)**

\*St. John's Mission Statement

L: As a reminder of God's goodness to us, we proclaim the Mission of our church together. Collectively,

**C: We praise God for all His bountiful blessings. We desire to grow together in faith and love, acknowledging that we are a family, a congregation, and a community.**

\*Benediction—

*The Dismissal from Worship on the Bells*

*\*Extinguishing of Candles –You are entering the Mission Field! To Follow Him is to Tell of Him!*

*Organ Postlude*

**Prayer Requests For:** Gwen, Mikey, Terry, Jamie, the family of Lori Krug, Joe, Joyce, Georgette, Barb, John, Cody, Bob, Dave, The Lardieri Family, The Brua Family, Jim, Matt, Elaine, Ernie, Jaxon, Judy, Mary, Mike, The Kost Family, Bonnie, Janet, Sally, Jeff, Brian, Judy, Tom, Jason, Joyce, Albert, Carly and Justin, Jaclyn, Bob, Sr., Jill, Lana and Andrea, Kelsi, Fred, Sr., Kathy, Ken, Mary Lou, Curt, Sue, Kim, Wendy, Linda, Mark, Peggy, Sarah, Dalton, Nico, Michael, First Responders, Members of our Military and their families, Cancer treatment patients and the congregation of St. John's Lutheran Church.

***If you would like anyone added (or if someone can be removed) please let Carey Williams (brooke2235@yahoo.com) know. Thank You***

**Pastoral Care** – For anyone needing pastoral care, Pastor Sharon Erb is our vacancy pastor. Please feel free to contact her at 814-935-1968. Please note that Drew Baker is also available if you would like to reach out to him as well. Please feel free to contact him at 814-932-4085.

Give to St. John’s online for a one-time or a recurring gift using the church’s website:

[www.stjohnssinkingvalley.com](http://www.stjohnssinkingvalley.com)

Scroll down the home page and click on the PDF “Online Giving DIRECTIONS” for more information. Click on the “Online Giving Web Site” link to create a free profile and get started.

Or give through the mail. Please send checks made out to “St. John’s Lutheran Church” to:

St. John’s Lutheran Church  
P.O. Box 222  
Tyrone, PA 16686

Please include your name and envelope number if applicable. Thank you for your generosity.

**CHURCH WEBSITE:** [www.stjohnssinkingvalley.com](http://www.stjohnssinkingvalley.com) **FACEBOOK PAGE:** [st-johns sinking valley](https://www.facebook.com/st-johns-sinking-valley)

**St. John’s Lutheran Church**

[PO Box 222](mailto:stjohnssv548@gmail.com)

[Tyrone, PA 16686](mailto:stjohnssv548@gmail.com)

[Ph: 814-684-4613](mailto:stjohnssv548@gmail.com)

**Email:** [stjohnssv548@gmail.com](mailto:stjohnssv548@gmail.com)

**Reader/Acolyte/Offering Schedule**

<b>April</b>	<b>Reader</b>	<b>Acolyte</b>	<b>Count Offering</b>
4/7/24	Madison Harper	Emily Pedersen	Heidi Shetler / Deb Beauchamp
4/14/24	David Lang	Jaelyn Rockwell	Heidi Shetler / Deb Beauchamp
4/21/24	Ryan Fleck	Peyton Harper	Heidi Shetler / Deb Beauchamp
4/28/24	Carrie Grassi	Rachel Pedersen	Heidi Shetler / Deb Beauchamp

**Upcoming Dates**

**April 10<sup>th</sup> – Council Meeting – 6 p.m.**

**April 13<sup>th</sup> – We Care Meals**

**April 27<sup>th</sup> – We Care Meals**

**April 27<sup>th</sup> – Men’s Fellowship Breakfast – 8:00 a.m.**

## ANNOUNCEMENTS

**Thank you!** - Special thanks to everyone who made the 3<sup>rd</sup> Annual Pie & Praise a success!

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**Council Meeting** – There will be a council meeting on Wednesday, April 10<sup>th</sup>, at 6:30 p.m., at the church. Anyone is welcome to attend.

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**Men’s Fellowship Breakfast** – The next men’s fellowship breakfast will be held on Saturday, April 27<sup>th</sup> at 8:00 a.m. Please be sure to sign up on the back table. Any questions, please see Jerry Shetler or Randy Turiano.

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**Bible Study TODAY** – Immediately following worship. If you are interested in joining bible study for approximately 45 minutes after worship, please plan to stay. We will be using the book – “Begin: A Journey Through Scriptures for Seekers and New Believers”.

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**Favorite Hymns** – If you have a favorite hymn, please be sure to put it on the list on the back table.

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**Sunday Evening Bible Study** – Adult Bible Study will continue to meet Sunday evenings at 6:30 p.m. For more information, please contact Drew Baker (814-932-4085), or Jerry & Heidi Shetler (814-327-4808 / 814-686-2347).

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**Children’s Sunday School** – Children’s Sunday School resumed in January. If you have any questions, please see Jeanne Fleck.

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**Directory Pictures** – For those of you that had your picture taken by Sarah Dane for the directory, please find the link to view them. Note: Please click on the heart by the photo you would like to be placed in the directory. <https://sarahjdanephoto.com/pixieset.com/stjohnschurchdirectorypictures2023/>

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**We Care Meals** - We Care Meals, providing free meals for people in the Community on the 2<sup>nd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> Saturday of the month, some recipients are elderly, young, home bound, recovering from illness or accident, or just could use a good meal and a smiling face delivering the meal. If you know of “**ANY ONE**”, please contact Jeanne Fleck.

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**Good Samaritan Fund Recipients** – The Good Samaritan Fund was established to help anyone in need. If you know of anyone (individuals/families/missions), please pick up a form on the back table, complete it and put it in the offering plate or in the basket on the back table.

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**Prayer Chain** – There is a prayer support chain in place. If anyone would like to commit to praying and being part of the chain, please contact Terri Shultz or Charlene Detwiler. In addition, if you have someone to be added to the prayer chain, please let Terri or Charlene know.

# At the Cross 512

For the message of the cross is foolishness to those who are perishing . . . 1 Cor. 1:18

1. A - las! and did my Sav - ior bleed, and did my Sov - ereign die?  
2. Was it for crimes that I have done, he groaned up - on the tree?  
3. Well might the sun in dark - ness hide and shut its glo - ries in,  
4. Thus might I hide my blush - ing face while his dear cross ap - pears,  
5. But drops of grief can ne'er re - pay the debt of love I owe;

Would he de - vote that sa - cred head for sin - ners such as I?  
A - maz - ing pit - y! Grace un - known! And love be - yond de - gree!  
when Christ, the might - y Mak - er, died for his own crea - ture's sin.  
dis - solve my heart in thank - ful - ness, and melt my eyes to tears.  
here, Lord, I give my - self a - way - 'tis all that I can do!

*Refrain*

At the cross, at the cross where I first saw the light, and the

bur - den of my heart rolled a - way, rolled a - way, it was there by faith

I re - ceived my sight, and now I am hap - py all the day!

WORDS: Isaac Watts, 1707; ref., Ralph E. Hudson, 1885  
MUSIC: Ralph E. Hudson, 1885; ref. melody, John H. Hewitt, 1864

HUDSON  
C.M.Ref.