

St. John's Lutheran Church

February 18, 2024



STEPPING OUT

Thank you for worshipping with us today.

www.stjohnssinkingvalley.com

PO Box 222
Tyrone, PA 16686

* = Please stand as you are able

The Call to Worship on the Bells

The Announcements/Birthday Celebrations/Anniversary Recognitions

Organ Prelude –

Lighting of Candles: Acolyte – Aidan Luther

Opening Prayer

***The Opening Hymn –**

All Hail The Power of Jesus Name (LBW #328)

***Call to Worship – from Psalm 32**

L: Let all God's people come—

P: We will lift our voices to the Lord.

L: God says to us today, "I will teach you the way you should go."

P: So we will listen and follow God's way as He calls us...

L: We begin a journey of stepping out, and trusting in Him.

P: We will trust Him on this journey.

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.

***Prayers of the People**

***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.

Offertory

***Offertory Response**

The Doxology

Praise God From Whom All Blessings Flow

Praise Him All Creatures Here Below

Praise Him Above Ye Heavenly Host

Praise Father, Son and Holy Ghost. Amen

*** Prayer of Thanksgiving**

The Liturgy of the Word – Lyndsey Fleck

Today's Old Testament Lesson comes from the book of Proverbs

Proverbs 6:6-11

Go to the ant, you sluggard;

consider its ways and be wise!

7 It has no commander,

no overseer or ruler,

8 yet it stores its provisions in summer

and gathers its food at harvest

9 How long will you lie there, you sluggard?

When will you get up from your sleep?

10 A little sleep, a little slumber,

a little folding of the hands to rest—

11 and poverty will come on you like a thief

and scarcity like an armed man.

L: The Word of the Lord.

C: Thanks be to God.

Today's New Testament Lesson comes from the book of Romans

Romans 8:24-25

For in this hope we were saved. Now hope that is seen is not hope. For who hopes for what he sees? But if we hope for what we do not see, we wait for it with patience.

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 14:22-26

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.

L: The Gospel of the Lord

C: Praise to you, O Christ

Message –

STEPPING OUT: But It's Comfortable Here!

***Hymn-**

Let Us Break Bread Together (LBW #212)

***Communion**

1st Corinthians 11:26-29 tells us... “ For whenever you eat this bread and drink this cup, you proclaim the Lord’s death until he comes. So then, whoever eats the bread or drinks the cup of the Lord in an unworthy manner will be guilty of sinning against the body and blood of the Lord. Everyone ought to examine themselves before they eat of the bread and drink from the cup. For those who eat and drink without discerning the body of Christ eat and drink judgment on themselves”

L: As we enter into this time of Communion, a time of remembering Christ as the Son of God, the sacrificial lamb, the very one who would take away the sins of the world, let us reflect on what He has done for us. For, if we say we have no sin we deceive ourselves and the truth is not in us.

Let us now confess our sin to God who is faithful and just and through the redemption found in Christ, has promised to forgive our sin and cleanse us from all unrighteousness.

Silence for Reflection

L: Most merciful God,

C: have mercy on us. We confess to you that 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 trusted you with our whole heart; we have not loved one another in deed and in truth. In your compassion forgive our sin and so uphold us by your Spirit that we may live and serve you in newness of life through Jesus Christ our light and our truth. Amen.

L: With joy, we have the assurance that as a redeemed child of Almighty God, rich in mercy, abundant in love, forgives us of all our sin and grants us newness of life in Jesus Christ.

C: Thanks be to God!

Communion prayer:

P: Let us pray, Blessed are you,

C: O Lord our God, maker of all things. Through your goodness the table is now set that were consecrated by Bishop Paula for us today. As we come to your table, we offer ourselves to your service and dedicate our lives to the care and redemption of all that you have made, for the sake of Him who gave Himself for us, Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

** When our brothers and sisters gathered in worship with Bishop Paula Schmidt, they heard again the story of God’s mighty acts and of the love shown to us in Jesus’ life, death, resurrection, and ascension, and we shared in the holy meal of the Lord’s Supper. Now, this same word of life, and this same bread and cup of blessing is brought to us yet again, so that we may share in these gifts and be strengthened in communion with all the people of God.*

This is the supper of our Lord Jesus Christ, and this meal is shared with the assurance of our Lord’s presence through the gift of the Holy Spirit. This bread and cup, shared in the gathering of our faith, are given for you.

Now gathered at the Lord’s Table, we celebrate with thanksgiving that “in the night in which Jesus was betrayed, He 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 all people for the forgiveness of sin. Do this for the remembrance of me.”

**Congregation will be dismissed by pew to receive elements at the altar. Should you not be able to travel to the altar, the elements will be brought to your seat.*

Post-Communion Blessing

P: The body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen you and keep you in his grace. Let us pray...

C: Father God, having partaken of the great remembrance of your sacrifice for us, we praise you for you are the giver of all good things.

***Hymn –**

How Firm A Foundation (LBW #507)

***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 – Go Tell it on the Mountain, the King Is Coming!*

Organ Postlude

Prayer Requests For: Terry, Jamie, Lori, 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

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

Ph: 814-684-4613

Email: stjohnssv548@gmail.com

Upcoming Dates

February 24 – We Care Meals

February 25 – Gob Fundraiser Forms & Money Due

March 2nd – Men’s Breakfast

March 9th – We Care Meals

March 23rd – We Care Meals

March 28th – Maundy Thursday Service – 7 p.m.

March 29th – Good Friday Service – 7 p.m.

Reader/Acolyte/Offering Schedule

February	Reader	Acolyte	Count Offering
2/4/24	Lori Cushion	Jaelyn Rockwell	Charlene Detwiler / Marty Williams
2/11/24	Madison Coleman	Emily Pedersen	Charlene Detwiler / Marty Williams
2/18/24	Lyndsey Fleck	Aidan Luther	Charlene Detwiler / Marty Williams
2/25/24	Aidan Luther	Peyton Harper	Charlene Detwiler / Marty Williams

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Easter Flowers – Order forms for Easter Flowers are on the back table. Please complete your order form with payment and return to either Carey or Kathy Williams. **Order Deadline is Sunday, February 25th.**

Men's Breakfast – March 2nd – There will be a men's breakfast on Saturday, March 2nd. Please sign up on the back table. Any questions, please see Jerry Shetler or Randy Turiano.

Good Samaritan Fund – The Good Samaritan Fund Recipient for the month of February is for Joe Lawson. Joe and his wife, Angel, live in Altoona and Joe was recently diagnosed with Stage 3b Lung Cancer. He is currently receiving chemo treatments to shrink a mass before he can have surgery. He is unable to work during his treatments so his wife, Angel, is currently the sole provider for their family. Angel was also involved in a car accident in January which resulted in them having to get another vehicle. Please pray for healing for Joe and for his family during this difficult time they are going through.

Treasurer Position – Lori Cushion has decided to retire from the Treasurer's position. If you are interested in becoming the church treasurer, please see a council member. This is a paid position. The candidate does not need prior experience to apply for this position. Duties of the treasurer include: tracking offering for members, preparing and taking deposits to the bank, paying monthly bills, preparing monthly and year-end reports for council review, preparing the budget, and reconciling monthly bank statements. *Thank you, Lori, for all your dedication and hard work over the years. We truly appreciate all that you have done for St. John's.*

St. John's February Gob Sale to Support Outreach Ministry –

- **ORDERS & MONEY DUE: February 25th**
- **DELIVERY: March 14th – time? TBD but it will be after 4pm**
- **COST: \$3.00 Per Gob and we make \$1.00 on each**
- **SUPPORT: This fundraiser will be to support our Outreach Ministry**
- **QUESTIONS: See Heidi Shetler**

If you have any questions, please reach out to Heidi Shetler at 814-327-1995(cell) or heidishetler2@gmail.com. I have no doubt we can beat last year's total. **Let's try to reach 500 units to help support our Community Outreach!** Thank you for your participation.

Sunday School Today – Sunday School will resume in January. If you have any questions, please see Jeanne Fleck.

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://sarahjdanephotography.pixieset.com/stjohnschurchdirectorypictures2023/>

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).

Coffee/Cookie Fellowship Help Needed! – We are looking for help with the coffee/cookie fellowship. If you would be interested in hosting and providing cookies, there is a sign up form on the back table.

We Care Meals - We Care Meals, providing free meals for people in the Community on the 2nd and 4th 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.

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.

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.

Blessing Box TRANSITION – The Blessing Box has been a great ministry especially during COVID. However, it hasn't been used as much lately so Council has decided to remove the Blessing Box outdoors and have a basket set up to collect for the Tyrone Food Bank. Please note: if you know of a family with a specific need, please let a member of Council know. Thank you for your continued support of this ministry.