

April 6, 2025 | 9:30 am
FIFTH SUNDAY IN LENT

As children of God and disciples of Christ seeking peace and justice in the world, we welcome, affirm, and include all people into the fullness of God's love. We celebrate and lift up people of all races, cultures, ages, sexual orientations, gender identities, physical or mental abilities, economic statuses, political affiliation, appearances, family status, and citizenship as equally loved and valued in the eyes of God and in this place. All are invited to join this community as we worship God, grow in faith, and strive to love and serve one another.

All, without exception, are welcome in this place.



ST. JOHN'S EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH BOYERTOWN

AUTHENTIC WORSHIP † INTENTIONAL RELATIONSHIPS † SACRIFICIAL SERVICE † RADICAL GENEROSITY

CORE VALUES

**AUTHENTIC
WORSHIP**



**INTENTIONAL
RELATIONSHIPS**



**SACRIFICIAL
SERVICE**



**RADICAL
GENEROSITY**



ST. JOHN'S EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH, BOYERTOWN

BAPTISMAL PROMISE

GIFTS OF DISCIPLESHIP



LIVE

among God's faithful people



HEAR

the word of God



SHARE

in the Lord's Supper



PROCLAIM

the good news of God in Christ
through word and deed



SERVE

all people, following the example of Jesus



STRIVE

for justice and peace in all the earth

WELCOME

You are a blessing to us, and we're glad you're here today!

NEW HERE?

Please do not feel obligated to contribute an offering - you are our guest! Rather, please ask an usher for a Let's Get Acquainted card and drop it in the offering plate.

Restrooms are located on the same level as the sanctuary. Exit the back of the sanctuary, turn left into Parish House, turn left again at ramp and continue midway down hallway. Restrooms are on the right.

Gluten-free communion wafers and grape juice are available at the center aisle.

WHERE DO MY KIDS GO?

Children are always welcome to worship. Sunday School is offered for children ages 3 through 6th grade. Families are encouraged to begin worship together at 9:30 in the Sanctuary. Children are dismissed from worship and escorted to their classroom, located on the second floor of the Parish House. Children are released to parents at worship conclusion, approximately 10:30 am.

PRAYER REQUESTS

The importance of prayer is affirmed throughout the Bible. As a church we are committed to pray - your needs are important to us. Prayer request cards can be obtained from an usher and may be filled out and dropped in the offering plate.

GATHERING TIMES

Sunday | 9:30 am | Sanctuary
Worship Celebration with Holy Communion
Livestream on YouTube (St John's ELC Boyertown)

Thursday | 8:00 pm
Service Broadcast on Comcast Channel 98

GET CONNECTED

Connect with God, each other and our community! Follow us on Facebook, YouTube and Instagram!



SERVING IN WORSHIP

Acolyte	Delaney Hersperger	Media	Sarah Eidle
Altar Assistants	Michele & Dave Eidle	Musician	Sam Kulp
Altar Guild	Mary Kay Heimbach, Amy Moyer	Prayer	Sue Grofe
Assisting Minister	Amy Moyer	Sound	Brianna Rohrbach
Lector	Michele Eidle	Video	Camryn Friz
Ushers	Sue & George Hill, Barbara Houp, Carol Sematis		



Fifth Sunday In Lent

Our God makes all things new. In the first reading God promises it. In the gospel Mary anticipates it, anointing Jesus' feet with costly perfume in preparation for the day of his burial. In the second reading Paul recalls his transformation from the persecutor Saul into an apostle. In baptism, God's new person (you!) rises daily from the deadly mire of trespasses and sins.

PRELUDE

VIDEO

WELCOME

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

The congregation may stand.

Blessed be the holy Trinity, one God, who forgives all our sin, whose mercy endures forever.
Amen.

Let us return to God, confessing our sin in the assurance of God's abiding love.

Compassionate One, **you are slow to anger and abounding in steadfast love, but our lives do not always reflect you and your love for the world. We do not show others the tender compassion you have shown to us. We do not welcome others with the radical hospitality you grant to all people. We oppress others, even though you have set us free again and again. We squander the abundant gifts of the earth. Transform our lives and guide us again in the way of the cross.**
Amen.

Beloved in Christ, God's arms are always stretched open wide to welcome the wandering ones home. In Christ your sins are forgiven. You have a place in God's house forever. **Amen.**



1 As we gath-er at your ta-ble, as we lis-ten to your word,
2 Turn our wor-ship in-to wit-ness in the sac-ra-ment of life;
3 Gra-cious Spir-it, help us sum-mon oth-er guests to share that feast



help us know, O God, your pres-ence; let our hearts and minds be stirred.
send us forth to love and serve you, bring-ing peace where there is strife.
where tri-um-phant Love will wel-come those who had been last and least.



Nour-ish us with sa-cred sto-ry till we claim it as our own;
Give us, Christ, your great com-pas-sion to for-give as you for-gave;
There no more will en-vy blind us nor will pride our peace de-stroy,



teach us through this ho-ly ban-quet how to make Love's vic-t'ry known.
may we still be-hold your im-age in the world you died to save.
as we join with saints and an-gels to re-peat the sound-ing joy.

Text: Carl P. Daw Jr., b. 1944

Music: IN BABILONE, *Oude en Nieuwe Hollandse Boerenliedjes en Contradansen*, 1710

Text © 1989 Hope Publishing Company, Carol Stream, IL 60188. All rights reserved. Used by permission.

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.**

PRAYER OF THE DAY

Let us pray. **Creator God, you prepare a new way in the wilderness, and your grace waters our desert. Open our hearts to be transformed by the new thing you are doing, that our lives may proclaim the extravagance of your love given to all through your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.**

Change My Heart, O God

Refrain



Change my heart, O God; make it ev - er true.

End



Change my heart, O God; may I be like you.



You are the pot - ter; I am the clay.



Refrain

Mold me and make me; this is what I pray.

Text: Eddie Espinosa, b. 1953
Music: CHANGE MY HEART, Eddie Espinosa
Text and music © 1982 Mercy/Vineyard Publishing, admin. Music Services

Children are dismissed to Sunday School.

The congregation may be seated.

PSALM 126 (*read responsively*)

¹ When the LORD restored the fortunes of Zion,
then were we like those who dream.

² **Then was our mouth filled with laughter, and our tongue with shouts of joy.
Then they said among the nations, "The LORD has done great things for them."**

³ The LORD has done great things for us,
and we are glad indeed.

⁴ **Restore our fortunes, O LORD,
like the watercourses of the Negeb.**

⁵ Those who sowed with tears
will reap with songs of joy.

⁶ **Those who go out weeping, carrying the seed,
will come again with joy, shouldering their sheaves.**

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

SECOND READING

Philippians 3:4b-14

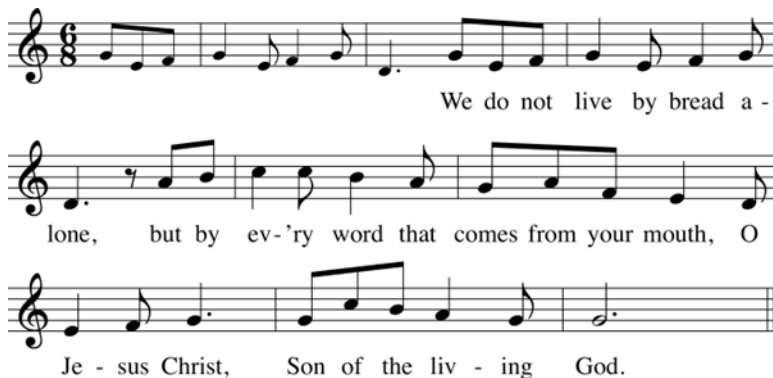
Writing to Christians in Philippi, Paul admits that his heritage and reputation could give him more reason than most people to place confidence in his spiritual pedigree. But the overwhelming grace of God in Jesus calls Paul to a new set of values.

[Paul writes:] ^{4b} If anyone else has reason to be confident in the flesh, I have more: ⁵ circumcised on the eighth day, a member of the people of Israel, of the tribe of Benjamin, a Hebrew born of Hebrews; as to the law, a Pharisee; ⁶ as to zeal, a persecutor of the church; as to righteousness under the law, blameless. ⁷ Yet whatever gains I had, these I have come to regard as loss because of Christ. ⁸ More than that, I regard everything as loss because of the surpassing value of knowing Christ Jesus my Lord. For his sake I have suffered the loss of all things, and I regard them as rubbish, in order that I may gain Christ ⁹ and be found in him, not having a righteousness of my own that comes from the law, but one that comes through faith in Christ, the righteousness from God based on faith. ¹⁰ I want to know Christ and the power of his resurrection and the sharing of his sufferings by becoming like him in his death, ¹¹ if somehow I may attain the resurrection from the dead. ¹² Not that I have already obtained this or have already reached the goal; but I press on to make it my own, because Christ Jesus has made me his own. ¹³ Beloved, I do not consider that I have made it my own; but this one thing I do: forgetting what lies behind and straining forward to what lies ahead, ¹⁴ I press on toward the goal for the prize of the heavenly call of God in Christ Jesus.

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

The congregation may stand.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION



We do not live by bread a -
lone, but by ev-'ry word that comes from your mouth, O
Je - sus Christ, Son of the liv - ing God.

Text: Susan Briehl, © 2004, Augsburg Fortress, Publishers
Music: Marty Haugen, © 2004, GIA Publications, Inc.

GOSPEL READING

The Holy Gospel according to St. John. **Glory to you, O Lord.**

John 12:1-8

Judas willfully misinterprets as waste Mary's extravagant act of anointing Jesus' feet with costly perfume. Jesus recognizes that her lavish gift is both an expression of love and an anticipation of his burial.

¹Six days before the Passover Jesus came to Bethany, the home of Lazarus, whom he had raised from the dead. ²There they gave a dinner for him. Martha served, and Lazarus was one of those at the table with him. ³Mary took a pound of costly perfume made of pure nard, anointed Jesus' feet, and wiped them with her hair. The house was filled with the fragrance of the perfume. ⁴But Judas Iscariot, one of his disciples (the one who was about to betray him), said, ⁵"Why was this perfume not sold for three hundred denarii and the money given to the poor?" ⁶(He said this not because he cared about the poor, but because he was a thief; he kept the common purse and used to steal what was put into it.) ⁷Jesus said, "Leave her alone. She bought it so that she might keep it for the day of my burial. ⁸You always have the poor with you, but you do not always have me."

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

The congregation may be seated.

SERMON

Jennifer Schlegel

The congregation may stand.

HYMN OF THE DAY

Take My Life, That I May Be

ELW 685



- 1 Take my life, that I may be con - se - crat - ed, Lord, to thee;
- 2 Take my hands and let them move at the im - pulse of thy love;
- 3 Take my voice and let me sing al - ways, on - ly, for my King;
- 4 Take my sil - ver and my gold, not a mite would I with - hold;



take my mo - ments and my days; let them flow in cease - less praise.
take my feet and let them be swift and beau - ti - ful for thee.
take my lips and let them be filled with mes - sag - es from thee.
take my in - tel - lect, and use ev - 'ry pow'r as thou shalt choose.

- 5 Take my will and make it thine;
it shall be no longer mine.
Take my heart, it is thine own;
it shall be thy royal throne.

- 6 Take my love; my Lord, I pour
at thy feet its treasure store;
take myself, and I will be
ever, only, all for thee.

Text: Frances R. Havergal, 1836–1879, alt.
Music: PATMOS, William H. Havergal, 1793–1870

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.**

The congregation may kneel.

PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

Led by the Spirit, let us turn to God in prayer for the church, the world, and all those in need.

The church declares your praise, O God. Guide us in the example of Isaiah's imagination, Paul's transformed identity, and Mary's faith and devotion; that our lives, too, may be poured out in love as we trust in your promises. God, in your mercy, **receive our prayer.**

The earth declares your praise, O God. Make a way for the planet's future in the sea and the wilderness, the mountains and plains, the tundra and wetlands. Repair habitats and sustainable ecosystems on, above, and beneath the ground. God, in your mercy, **receive our prayer.**

The nations declare your praise, O God. Where religious differences divide, bring together those who worship you in the name of Jesus Christ and those who call to you with different names. Guide interreligious dialogue, that faith may unite rather than divide communities. God, in your mercy, **receive our prayer.**

The people declare your praise, O God. Restore those whose hope has been dampened through a health diagnosis, job or home loss, divorce, or death. Bring healing to those in need. May all who weep now sing songs of joy again. God, in your mercy, **receive our prayer.**

The gifts of the Spirit declare your praise, O God. We thank you for artists who proclaim the gospel. Inspire music, poetry, and images that proclaim the new thing you are doing. God, in your mercy, **receive our prayer.**

Please verbally add your personal prayer requests

The communion of saints declares your praise, O God. Giving thanks for those who have died, we trust in the one who has made them his own: Christ Jesus, our crucified and risen Savior. God, in your mercy, **receive our prayer.**

Receive the prayers of your people and draw all things together in your love, in the name of Jesus, who leads us from death to life. **Amen.**

The congregation may be seated.

OFFERING MUSIC

The congregation may stand.

OFFERING PRAYER

Gracious Provider, you set your immense treasures among us, opening your heart to the world. As we prepare to feast on your bountiful love, deepen our commitment to sharing those treasures with others, through our Savior, Jesus Christ. **Amen.**

COMMUNION MUSIC

The Table

Chris Tomlin

I will feast at the table of the Lord.

I will feast at the table of the Lord.

I won't hunger anymore at His table.

Come all you weary, come and find

His yoke is easy, His burden light.

He is able; He will restore at the table of the Lord.

WORDS OF INSTITUTION

On the night of his betrayal
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.

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 sins, as we forgive those who sin 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

All who are hungry, come! The feast of grace is spread.

The congregation may be seated.

DISTRIBUTION OF THE SACRAMENT

All without exception, are welcome at the table of God's grace and love. Please fill out a communion card and hand to an usher or place in the box at back of sanctuary. Today we receive the sacrament at the altar rail. Please come forward at the direction of the ushers. Gluten-free wafers and grape juice are available at the center aisle. Return to your seats by the side aisle. If you are unable to come forward for communion, please let an usher know and communion will be brought to you.

The congregation may stand.

BLESSING

The body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen you and keep you in his grace, in the name of the Father, Son, and Holy Spirit. **Amen.**

POST-COMMUNION PRAYER

Generous Host, you have shared your feast with us and made us new. Send us now to set tables of love and grace in our communities, that your liberating love might nourish the world into freedom, in the name of the crucified one, Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

BENEDICTION

God our tender parent, God the crucified one, God the reconciling Spirit, bless you now and forever. **Amen.**



1 A - maz - ing grace!— how sweet the sound— that
 2 'Twas grace that taught my heart to fear, and
 3 Through man - y dan - gers, toils, and snares I
 4 The Lord has prom - ised good to me; his
 5 When we've been there ten thou - sand years, bright



saved a wretch like me! I once was lost, but
 grace my fears re - lieved; how pre - cious did that
 have al - read - y come; 'tis grace has brought me
 word my hope se - cures; he will my shield and
 shin - ing as the sun, we've no less days to



now am found; was blind, but now I see.
 grace ap - pear the hour I first be - lieved!
 safe thus far, and grace will lead me home.
 por - tion be as long as life en - dures.
 sing God's praise than when we'd first be - gun.

Text: John Newton, 1725–1807, alt., sts. 1–4; anonymous, st. 5

Music: NEW BRITAIN, W. Walker, *Southern Harmony*, 1835

DISMISSAL

Go in peace. Care for others as God cares for you. **Thanks be to God!**

POSTLUDE

From Sundays and Seasons.com. Copyright 2025 Augsburg Fortress. All rights reserved.

Reprinted by permission under Augsburg Fortress Liturgies Annual License #23029.

Hymns and service music reprinted under OneLicense.net #A-709485.

GUESTS are always welcome to the Table!

MEMBERS (*two types*)

Voting & Non-voting

KEEPING MEMBERSHIP SIMPLE

1. The only way you can ever be removed from the membership roll at St. John's, or any ELCA congregation:
 - You request a transfer
 - You ask to be removed
 - You depart this life
2. Voting members must make a record of having:
 - Filled out a communion card and received the Lord's Supper ONE time per year
 - Contributed ONE time per year, making sure your name is included



THIS WEEK AT ST. JOHN'S

SUNDAY, APRIL 6 – Fifth Sunday in Lent

Preschool Art Show & Book Fair	Fellowship Hall
9:30 AM Worship Celebration	Sanctuary
9:30 AM Sunday School	Parish House, 2 nd floor
10:45 AM Passion Reader Rehearsal	Sanctuary
10:45 AM Service MAG	Conference Room
12:00 PM Licensed Lay Ministry Retreat	Lower Level

MONDAY, APRIL 7

Preschool Art Show & Book Fair	Fellowship Hall
6:30 PM Girl Scouts	Fellowship Hall

TUESDAY, APRIL 8

Preschool Art Show & Book Fair

WEDNESDAY, APRIL 9

Preschool Art Show & Book Fair	Fellowship Hall
8:15 AM Preschool Staff Meeting	Preschool
7:00 PM Midweek Lenten Worship, Unfailing Light	Sanctuary
7:45 PM Handbell Set Up	Sanctuary

THURSDAY, APRIL 10

Preschool Art Show & Book Fair	Fellowship Hall
10:00 AM Chestnut Knoll Service	Chestnut Knoll
7:00 PM Handbell Choir	Handbell Room
8:00 PM Worship Broadcast	Comcast Ch 98

FRIDAY, APRIL 11

7:00 AM Men's Small Group Bible Study	Telephone Conference
--	----------------------

SATURDAY, APRIL 12

4:30 PM Come to the Table	Fellowship Hall/Parking Lot
------------------------------------	-----------------------------

SUNDAY, APRIL 13 – Sunday of the Passion / Palm Sunday

9:30 AM Worship Celebration	Sanctuary
9:30 AM Sunday School	Parish House, 2 nd floor
10:45 AM First Holy Communion Training	Sanctuary

PURPOSE STATEMENT

We believe God's purpose for the people of St. John's Evangelical Lutheran Church is to develop joy-filled children of God who love the Lord and share God's Word.

We do this by:

- Maintaining a trusting and welcoming environment.
- Praying daily.
- Reading scripture regularly.
- Sharing our faith through action-based service.
- Encouraging holy conversations.
- Feeding our faith with music.

With a focus on:

- Activities that build relationships.
- Worship that is relevant.
- Meeting the needs of the vulnerable in our community.

Pastor Bob Machamer

bmachamer@stjohnsboyertown.org

Kay Christman, Finance Team

financialsecretary@stjohnsboyertown.org

Sue Grofe, Finance Team

financialsecretary@stjohnsboyertown.org

Donnie Heimbach, Property

Bonnie Moatz, Finance Team

financialsecretary@stjohnsboyertown.org

Shannon Omlor, Communications Coordinator

somlor@stjohnsboyertown.org

Linda Rohrbach, Treasurer

treasurer@stjohnsboyertown.org

Becky Scheiry, Parish Administrator

parishadmin@stjohnsboyertown.org



45 N. Reading Avenue | Boyertown, PA 19512
610.369.1024 | fax 610.369.1463
stjohnsboyertown.org

Office Hours | Monday-Thursday 8:30am - 3:30pm | Friday 8:30am - 12:00pm