

STAFF

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******The Pastors are off on Fridays*****



Notice of live streaming:
Today's worship service is being live streamed to YouTube with video coverage of leaders and worshippers.

 [stjohnsparkville](https://www.instagram.com/stjohnsparkville)
 [St. John's Lutheran Church Parkville](https://www.facebook.com/StJohnsLutheranChurchParkville)
 [stjohnsparkvil1](https://twitter.com/stjohnsparkvil1)

Fifth Sunday after Epiphany

February 5, 2023



St. John's Lutheran Church of Parkville
www.stjohnsparkville.org
 (410) 665-1234
office@stjohnsparkville.org
 Text SJPARKVILLE to 22828 to join our email list.

Welcome to St. John's—we are glad you're here! Whether you have worshiped with us many times, or this is your first time, there is a place for you here. Your presence among us is a gift.

Introduction to the Day

Light shines in the darkness for the upright, the psalmist sings. Isaiah declares that when we loose the bonds of injustice and share our bread with the hungry, the light breaks forth like the dawn. In another passage from the Sermon on the Mount, Jesus, the light of the world, calls his followers to let the light of their good works shine before others. Through baptism we are sent into the world to shine with the light of Christ.

(Please take a moment to silence all electronics. Thank you!)

(Hymns are taken from Evangelical Lutheran Worship, the red book in the pew rack.)

WELCOME

PRELUDE *Dialogue on “O Waly Waly” and “Finlandia”* Timothy P. Cooper
(© 2019 Lorenz Publishing Co.)

(Please stand as you are able.)

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

Blessed be the holy Trinity, + one God, who makes all things new, whose mercy endures forever.

Amen.

Trusting in God’s mercy, let us confess our sin.

(Silence is kept for reflection.)

Holy One, source of our renewal,
we confess that we are wrapped up in sin, and cannot free ourselves. We have not practiced your righteousness. Our hearts have turned away from you. For the sake of the world you so love, forgive us, that we may be reconciled to one another for the glory of your holy name. Amen.

Thus says our God:

“The former things have come to pass and new things I now declare.” God’s mercy makes us new. We are forgiven in the name of + Christ our Savior.

Amen.

GATHERING HYMN *Gather Us In* *ELW 532 (vv. 1-3)*

(Text and music: Marty Haugen, b. 1950; Text and music © 1982 GIA Publications, Inc.)

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.

This week's schedule

Today	9 am	Sunday School & Faith & Fellowship
	9 am	Handbell Choir (Music Room)
	10 am	Live & Online Worship
	11:30 am	Confirmation Class
Mon.		
Tues.		
Wed.	9:30 am	Busy Bees (Smith Building)
	7:30 pm	Adult Choir (Music Room)
Thurs.		
Fri.	11 am	New Bible Study (Smith Building)
Sat.	8 am	WELCA Day of Renewal

Counting our Blessings

		2022	
Sun.	Attendance: 115	December Offering Income	\$45,429
1/29	Offering: \$5,103	December Other Income	\$53,615
	Homebound: 17	December Total Income	\$99,044
		December Expenses	\$35,860
		YTD Offering Income	\$273,792
		YTD Other Income	\$ 79,711
		YTD Total Income	\$353,503
		YTD Expenses	\$362,836



Prayer List

Please remember the following individuals in your prayers.

For health & healing: Phil Ermer, John McLaughlin, Claire Miller, Alec Brock, Ruth Skarda, Bill Spink, Bonnie Rogers, Jim Morrow, Mardi Nickel, Kim Townsley, Thomas McDonough, Bett Murphy, Debbie Miller, Sandy Scott, Tony Jasinski, and Vickie Jasinski

For family & friends: Alice Ensor, Olivia, Karen Ehrenberg, Michael A., Jeanne Edmunds, Mike Haven, Gail Gangi, Jen Schoenfliess, Doug Adams, Kristin Weger, Mary Margaret Wroten, Joan Murphy, Tim Dunn, Donna Bobloch, Yung-Mee Rhee, Audrey Vargo, Jeanne Hartman, Rebecca Hornbarger, Livie Bach, Bob Murphy, Mary Jo Rother, Bonnie Kellner, and Linda Fliegel

For the military and their families: Kalib McCann, Mason Ledbetter, Leroy Keller, Seaman E-3 Carson Anthony Bowser, Corporal Justin Ferro, Sgt. Stephen Peck, Staff Sgt. Brandan Hartmann, Michael Anthony Tucker, Chaplain A. J. Striffler and all those in harm's way

For those grieving family & friends of: Fred Turkin, Matt Herzberg

For St. John's Caring Friends: Patricia Becker, Agatha Biensach-Daniels, Gladys Downs, Margaret Eubert, June Franz, Betty Glassband, Richard Hoerner, Audrey Lentz, John Lotterer, Paul Nolder, Patrick O'Connell, Arthur Pulket, Mary Ann Reek, Janet Roth, Kim Townsley, Cass Tracey and Emma Volz

Those Serving Today	
Assisting Minister	JoAnn Weiland
Crucifer	Olivia S.
Acolyte (s)	Emily B, Devon W.
Lector	Michelle Alkire
Communion Assistant	Michelle Alkire

PRAYER OF THE DAY

Lord God, with endless mercy you receive the prayers of all who call upon you. By your Spirit show us the things we ought to do, and give us the grace and power to do them, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.
Amen.

(The assembly is seated.)

CHILDREN'S SERMON

WORD

FIRST READING

Isaiah 58:1-12

Shortly after the return of Israel from exile in Babylon, the people were troubled by the ineffectiveness of their fasts. God reminds them that outward observance is no substitute for genuine fasting that results in acts of justice, such as feeding the hungry, sheltering the homeless, and clothing the naked.

Shout out, do not hold back!

Lift up your voice like a trumpet!

Announce to my people their rebellion,
to the house of Jacob their sins.

Yet day after day they seek me
and delight to know my ways,
as if they were a nation that practiced righteousness
and did not forsake the ordinance of their God;
they ask of me righteous judgments,
they delight to draw near to God.

“Why do we fast, but you do not see?

Why humble ourselves, but you do not notice?”

Look, you serve your own interest on your fast day,
and oppress all your workers.

Look, you fast only to quarrel and to fight
and to strike with a wicked fist.

Such fasting as you do today
will not make your voice heard on high.

Is such the fast that I choose,
a day to humble oneself?

Is it to bow down the head like a bulrush,
and to lie in sackcloth and ashes?

Will you call this a fast,
a day acceptable to the LORD?

Is not this the fast that I choose:
to loose the bonds of injustice,
to undo the thongs of the yoke,

to let the oppressed go free,
 and to break every yoke?
 Is it not to share your bread with the hungry,
 and bring the homeless poor into your house;
 when you see the naked, to cover them,
 and not to hide yourself from your own kin?
 Then your light shall break forth like the dawn,
 and your healing shall spring up quickly;
 your vindicator shall go before you,
 the glory of the LORD shall be your rear guard.
 Then you shall call, and the LORD will answer;
 you shall cry for help, and he will say, Here I am.
 If you remove the yoke from among you,
 the pointing of the finger, the speaking of evil,
 if you offer your food to the hungry
 and satisfy the needs of the afflicted,
 then your light shall rise in the darkness
 and your gloom be like the noonday.
 The LORD will guide you continually,
 and satisfy your needs in parched places,
 and make your bones strong;
 and you shall be like a watered garden,
 like a spring of water,
 whose waters never fail.
 Your ancient ruins shall be rebuilt;
 you shall raise up the foundations of many generations;
 you shall be called the repairer of the breach,
 the restorer of streets to live in.

The Word of the Lord.

PSALM *(Read responsively; congregation reads bold verses)*

Hallelujah! Happy are they who fear the LORD
 and have great delight in God's commandments!
**Their descendants will be mighty in the land;
 the generation of the upright will be blessed.**
 Wealth and riches will be in their house,
 and their righteousness will last forever.
**Light shines in the darkness for the upright;
 the righteous are merciful and full of compassion.**
 It is good for them to be generous in lending
 and to manage their affairs with justice.

Thanks be to God.

Psalm 112:1-10



Save the Date for St. John's Easter Egg Hunt on Saturday, April 8th from 10 am-12 noon behind the parsonage. In case of rain, the event will be held in the Fellowship Hall. RSVP to the church office by Friday, March 31st with the age and grade of your child.

2022 Contribution Statements have been mailed. If you have any questions or if you haven't received your statement, please contact Debbie Haacke at 410-661-8970 or haackefamily@comcast.net.



2023 Offering Envelopes are here. Please pick them up from the tables outside of the Sanctuary. If you don't have envelopes and would like a box, please contact the church office. If you see envelopes for a friend or neighbor who is not able to get to church, please deliver them. The cost of mailing the envelopes is very expensive, so we would like to deliver as many as possible. Thanks for your help!

Mark your calendars for our Youth Sponsored, Shrove Tuesday Pancake Supper on Tuesday, February 21st from 6-8 pm in the Fellowship Hall. If you plan to attend, please fill out a form and place it in the box outside of the Sanctuary, or in the offering plate, or contact the church office.



St. John's night at the Aberdeen Ironbirds game is Friday, June 16th at 7 pm. Tickets are \$12 and there will be fireworks after the game. For tickets contact David Evans at 410-802-2268 or ravenfan79@yahoo.com or see him before or after worship.

Save the Date for our 2023 Vacation Bible School on July 10-14th from 9 am-12:30 pm. We will starting our planning soon. As always, we will need many volunteers. If you have any questions, please contact Debbie Haacke at haackefamily@comcast.net.



Venmo is Here! We are happy to announce that you can give your offering using Venmo. Enter @stjohnsparkville in the Venmo App or scan the QR code.

Softball Team Opportunity...

There is an opening in a church men's softball league at Beachmont Christian Camp on Mt. Vista Road. If interested in playing, please contact David Evans at 410-802-2268 or ravenfan79@yahoo.com by February 12th. This is an 18 & older league.



Announcements & Upcoming Event

Next Week— Sunday, January 12th—6th Sunday after Epiphany

† 9 am—**Sunday School and Faith & Fellowship**

† 10 am—**Worship in-person**

† 11:30 am—**Exec. Meeting**

and livestreamed on our YouTube Channel at stjohns lutheran church parkville md.



The beautiful flowers gracing our worship service today are given in honor of Sophia Shull's 18th birthday with love from her family.

We are taking altar flower dedications for 2023. Dates available are: February 26th, March 26th, April 23rd, June 4th, 18th and 25th, July 2nd, 9th, 16th and 30th, August 6th, 20th and 27th, September 3rd, 10th, 17th and 24th. The cost is \$50. Contact Rachel Hills at rm_hills@yahoo.com if you would like to sponsor the flowers.

Nursery Care for infants through age 2 is available during the Sunday School hour while parents are attending Faith and Fellowship. During worship, care is available for infants through kindergarten.



Food for Thought Program is in great need of: **Chef Boyardee single serving meals, chicken & tuna salad kits, snack crackers and cookies.** We are now packing two bags of food for the weekend for 25 children each week, therefore our supply is depleted quickly. Please help if you can!



Mark your calendars for a new bible study! *The Gospel of Matthew for Everyone.* This group will meet weekly on **Fridays at 11 am in the Smith Building** beginning **Friday, February 10th**. This bible study is great for anyone who is looking for a deeper dive into the Gospel readings we hear during worship. The resource we will use, written by N.T. Wright, is both thorough and approachable. If you have questions or would like to learn more contact our bible study leader, Ardi Scarborough or speak with one of the Pastors. You're invited!



Tickets are on sale for St. John's 4th Annual Bull and Shrimp Roast on Friday, February 17, 2023 from 6:30 pm—10:30 pm at Columbus Gardens. Ticket prices are Adults \$55 and Children ages 13-20 \$50. Flyers with details are located on the counter outside of the Sanctuary, on the website and in the weekly emails. **We need a final headcount by Friday, February 10th**. If you would like to donate for the Silent Auction, take a post it from the board in the hallway outside of the Sanctuary and return your donation by Sunday, February 12th.

Save the Date for a Campfire at the Labyrinth sponsored by Family Ministry on **Friday, April 28th at 6pm.** This will be a fun evening of games and marshmallow roasting.



**For they will never be shaken;
the righteous will be kept in everlasting remembrance.**

They will not be afraid of any evil rumors;
their heart is steadfast, trusting in the LORD.

**Their heart is established and will not shrink,
until they see their desire upon their enemies.**

They have given freely to the poor, and their righteousness stands fast forever;
they will hold up their head with honor.

**The wicked will see it and be angry; they will gnash their teeth and pine away;
the desires of the wicked will perish.**

SECOND READING

1 Corinthians 2:1-12

Though people such as the Corinthians are enamored with human philosophy and wisdom, Paul continuously presents God's hidden wisdom which is Jesus Christ crucified. True spiritual maturity involves judging ourselves and others in light of God's revelation in the cross.

When I came to you, brothers and sisters, I did not come proclaiming the mystery of God to you in lofty words or wisdom. For I decided to know nothing among you except Jesus Christ, and him crucified. And I came to you in weakness and in fear and in much trembling. My speech and my proclamation were not with plausible words of wisdom, but with a demonstration of the Spirit and of power, so that your faith might rest not on human wisdom but on the power of God.

Yet among the mature we do speak wisdom, though it is not a wisdom of this age or of the rulers of this age, who are doomed to perish. But we speak God's wisdom, secret and hidden, which God decreed before the ages for our glory. None of the rulers of this age understood this; for if they had, they would not have crucified the Lord of glory. But, as it is written,

“What no eye has seen, nor ear heard,
nor the human heart conceived,

what God has prepared for those who love him”—

these things God has revealed to us through the Spirit; for the Spirit searches everything, even the depths of God. For what human being knows what is truly human except the human spirit that is within? So also no one comprehends what is truly God's except the Spirit of God. Now we have received not the spirit of the world, but the Spirit that is from God, so that we may understand the gifts bestowed on us by God.

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

ADDRESS FROM MAR-LU-RIDGE

Sarah Lefler—Executive Director
Diane Edelblute—Associate Director

(Please stand as you are able.)

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

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

GOSPEL

Matthew 5:13-20

In the Sermon on the Mount, Jesus encourages his followers to be the salt of the earth and the light of the world, doing good works and keeping God's commandments.

The Holy Gospel according to Matthew.

Glory to you, O Lord.

Jesus said: "You are the salt of the earth; but if salt has lost its taste, how can its saltiness be restored? It is no longer good for anything, but is thrown out and trampled under foot.

"You are the light of the world. A city built on a hill cannot be hid. No one after lighting a lamp puts it under the bushel basket, but on the lampstand, and it gives light to all in the house. In the same way, let your light shine before others, so that they may see your good works and give glory to your Father in heaven.

"Do not think that I have come to abolish the law or the prophets; I have come not to abolish but to fulfill. For truly I tell you, until heaven and earth pass away, not one letter, not one stroke of a letter, will pass from the law until all is accomplished. Therefore, whoever breaks one of the least of these commandments, and teaches others to do the same, will be called least in the kingdom of heaven; but whoever does them and teaches them will be called great in the kingdom of heaven. For I tell you, unless your righteousness exceeds that of the scribes and Pharisees, you will never enter the kingdom of heaven."

The Gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, O Christ.

(The assembly is seated.)

SERMON

(Please stand as you are able.)

SENDING

BLESSING

The God who faithfully brings forth justice and breaks the oppressor's rod + bless, strengthen, and uphold you, today and always.
Amen.

SENDING HYMN

Thy Strong Word

ELW 511 (vv. 1, 5)

(Text: Martin H. Franzmann, 1907-1976; Music: Thomas J. Williams, 1869-1944; arr. Richard W. Hillbert, 1923-2010; Text and arr. © 1969 Concordia Publishing House)

DISMISSAL

Go in peace. Follow the way of Jesus.

Thanks be to God.

POSTLUDE

Make a Joyful Noise

Franklin Ritter

(© 2007 Lorenz Publishing Co.)

*We welcome Sarah Lefler and Diane Edelblute
to our service this morning as they share about the life-changing ministry
of our synod's summer camp and retreat center, Mar-Lu-Ridge.
Thank you for your visit; it is a joy to have you with us!*

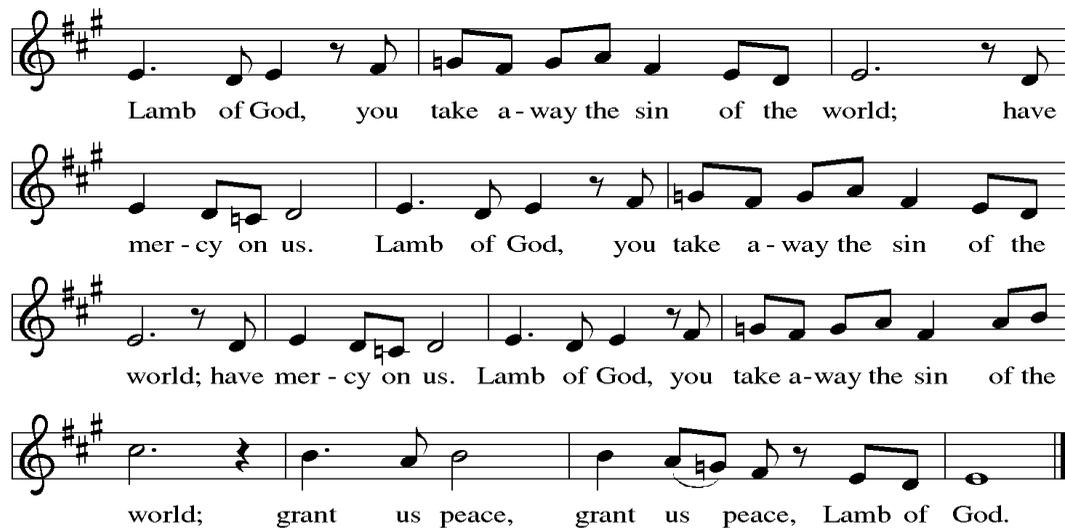
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COMMUNION

All are welcome at Christ's table. Bread is received in the hands. Gluten-free wafers are available-if you need one, please ask the pastor. To receive the wine, take an empty cup and the communion assistant will fill it with a sip of wine. The cups that are already filled contain grape juice. After drinking, place the used cup in the basket on your way back to your seat.

If you are not communing you are welcome to come forward for a blessing, crossing your arms over your chest.

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, Lamb of God.

COMMUNION HYMN *Lord, Whose Love in Humble Service* ELW 712

(Text: Albert F. Bayly, 1901-1984; Music: The Sacred Harp, Philadelphia, 1844; arr. Selected Hymns, 1985; Text © Oxford University Press; Arr. © 1985 Augsburg Fortress)

POST COMMUNION BLESSING

The body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen you and keep you in his grace.
Amen.

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

Holy One,
we thank you for the healing that springs forth abundantly from this table. Renew our
strength to do justice, love kindness, and journey humbly with you.
Amen.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

HYMN OF THE DAY

This Little Light of Mine

ELW 677

(Text and music: African American spiritual; arr. Horace Clarence Boyer, 1935-2009; Arr. © Horace Clarence Bower)

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.**

PRAYERS OF THE CHURCH

After each petition Merciful God,
Receive our prayer.

PEACE The peace of Christ be with you always.
And also with you.

(We offer each other a sign of God's peace. Afterwards, the assembly is seated.)

MEAL

OFFERTORY MUSIC

A Canticle of Peace

Franklin Ritter

(© 1995 Lorenz Publishing Co.)

*(An offering is gathered for the mission and ministry of God's Church.)
(Please stand as you are able.)*

OFFERING HYMN

We Are So Blessed

*We are so blessed by the gifts from your hand.
I just can't understand why you've loved us so much!
We are so blessed we just can't find a way, or the words that can say,
"Thank you, Lord, for your touch."*

*Refrain: When we're empty you fill us 'til we overflow;
when we're hungry you feed us and cause us to know
we are so blessed, take what we have to bring,
take it all, everything. Lord, we thank you so much!*

(Text: Gloria Gaither; Music: William J. Gaither, Greg Nelson; Text and music © 1982 River Oaks Music Company; CCLI Song #15991; permission for use granted under CCLI License #11527942)

OFFERING PRAYER

Liberating God,
you break the bonds of injustice and let the oppressed go free. Receive these offerings in thanksgiving for all your works of merciful power, and shape us as people of your justice and freedom. You we magnify and adore, through Jesus our Savior,
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.

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. By the leading of a star he was shown forth to all nations; in the waters of the Jordan you proclaimed him your beloved Son; and in the miracle of water turned to wine he revealed your glory. And so, with all the choirs of angels, with the church on earth and the hosts of heaven, we praise your name and join their unending hymn:

HOLY, HOLY, HOLY



Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow'r and might,
heav-en and earth are full of your glo - ry, full of your glo-ry. Ho -
san - na, ho - san - na, ho - san - na in the high -
est. Bless-ed is he who comes in the name of the Lord. Ho -
san - na, ho - san - na, ho - san - na in the high - est.

THANKSGIVING AT THE TABLE

Holy God, the Beginning and the End,
our Salvation and our Hope,
we praise you for creating a world of order and beauty.
When we brought on chaos, cruelty and despair,
you sent the prophets to proclaim your justice and mercy.
At this end of the ages
your Son Jesus came to bring us your love
and to heal all the suffering world.

In the night in which he was betrayed...

Remembering, therefore,
his life, death, and resurrection,
we await his coming again
in righteousness and peace.

Send your Spirit on us
and on this bread and wine we share:
strengthen our faith,
increase our hope,
and bring to birth the justice and joy of your Son.

Through him all glory and honor is yours,
Almighty Father, with the Holy Spirit,
in your holy Church,
both now and forever.

Amen.

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

(Sung call-and-echo)

**Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name,
thy kingdom come thy will be done, on earth as in heaven.**

**Give us this day our daily bread; and forgive us our sins
as we forgive; 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 assembly is seated.)

INVITATION TO COMMUNION

Come and taste the joy of God!