

STAFF

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For emergencies call 443-844-9314

\*\*\*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



St. John's Lutheran Church Parkville



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# Fourth Sunday after Pentecost

June 16, 2024



**St. John's Lutheran Church of Parkville**

[stjohnsparkville.org](http://stjohnsparkville.org)

(410) 665-1234

[office@stjohnsparkville.org](mailto: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

The mustard seed becomes a great shrub that shelters the birds, recalling ancient images of the tree of life. We'd expect a cedar or a sequoia, but Jesus finds the power of God better imaged in a tiny, no-account seed. It's not the way we expect divine activity to look. Yet the tree of life is here, in the cross around which we gather, the tree into which we are grafted through baptism, the true vine that nourishes us with its fruit in the cup we share. It may not appear all that impressive, but while nobody's looking it grows with a power beyond our understanding.

*(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

*The Ash Grove*

*Dale Wood*

*(2001 © The Sacred Music Press)*

*(Please stand as you are able.)*

## GATHERING

## CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

Blessed be the holy Trinity, ✚ one God,  
the God of manna,  
the God of miracles,  
the God of mercy.

**Amen.**

Drawn to Christ and seeking God's abundance,  
let us confess our sin.

*(Silence is kept for reflection.)*

God, our provider,  
**help us.**

**It is hard to believe there is enough to share.**

**We question your ways when they differ from the ways  
of the world in which we live.**

**We turn to our own understanding  
rather than trusting in you.**

**We take offense at your teachings and your ways.**

**Turn us again to you.**

**Where else can we turn?**

**Share with us the words of eternal life  
and feed us for life in the world.**

**Amen.**

## This week's schedule

Today	9 am Faith + Fellowship 10 am Live & Online Worship 11:30 am Altar Guild Meeting (Fellowship Hall)
Mon.	7 pm Council Meeting (Smith Building)
Tues.	11 am-10 pm Casa Mia's Restaurant Night (White Marsh location)
Wed.	9:30 am Busy Bees (Smith Building)
Thurs.	<b>Newsletter Articles Due</b>
Fri.	
Sat.	

## Counting our Blessings

		2024	
Sun.	Attendance: 129	April Offering Income	\$36,194
6/9	Offering: \$ 5,391	April Other Income	\$ 4,544
	Homebound: 15	April Total Income	\$40,738
		April Expenses	\$30,088
		YTD Offering Income	\$119,895
		YTD Other Income	\$ 23,162
		YTD Total Income	\$143,057
		YTD Expenses	\$135,216



## Prayer List

Please remember the following individuals in your prayers.

**For health & healing:** Diane Carroll, Eleanor McLaughlin, Mary Jo Rother, Mary Gude, Doris Rye, Richard Souders, Oluseye Fowode, Robert Suznick, Lisa Duerling, Joan Swank, Rosalie Coffman, Pat Hurley, Debbie Miller, Sandy Scott, and Vickie Jasinski

**For family & friends:** Paola Lott, Bob Murphy, Pat Lambert, Jonathan McLaughlin, Tim Hartman, Bill Beck, Chris Newman, Pierce Newman, Coralee Myrtle, Eleni Bowden, Butch Kahl, Pearl Johnson, Donna Joseph, Harriet Miller, Maeve Webster, John Bryan, Joe Federline, Tiffany Webb, Mary & Barry McCain, Bonnie Franklin, Jamie Kirschner, Rob Graff, Alice Evans, Trish Pizza, Betsy Shock, Julie Bramble, and Donna Bobloch

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

**For those grieving family & friends of:**

**For St. John's Caring Friends:** Patricia Becker, Agatha Biensach-Daniels, Barbara Conrad, Margaret Eubert, June Franz, Betty Glassband, Richard Hoerner, Patricia Hurley, Audrey Lentz, John Lotterer, Paul Nolder, Patrick O'Connell, Janet Roth, Kim Townsley, and Emma Volz

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Beloved people of God:  
in Jesus, the manna from heaven,  
you are fed and nourished.  
By Jesus, the worker of miracles,  
there is always more than enough.  
Through Jesus, + the bread of life,  
you are shown God's mercy:  
you are forgiven and loved into abundant life.  
**Amen.**

## GATHERING HYMN

*As Rain from the Clouds*

*ELW 508*

*(Text: Delores Dufner, OSB, b. 1939; Music: Jonathan E. Spilman, 1812-1896; arr. hymnal version; Text © 1983, 2003 GIA Publications, Inc.; Arr. © 2003 Augsburg Fortress)*

## 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.**

## PRAYER OF THE DAY

O God, you are the tree of life, offering shelter to all the world. Graft us into yourself and nurture our growth, that we may bear your truth and love to those in need, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

**Amen.**

## CHILDREN'S SERMON

### WORD

## FIRST READING

**Ezekiel 17:22-24**

*Tree imagery is used in a messianic prophecy to tell how the LORD will choose someone from Judah's royal family (the cedar tree) to reign over all creation. This tree will be planted on Mount Zion, the location of the holy temple.*

<sup>22</sup>Thus says the Lord GOD:

I myself will take a sprig  
from the lofty top of a cedar;  
I will set it out.

I will break off a tender one  
from the topmost of its young twigs;  
I myself will plant it  
on a high and lofty mountain.

<sup>23</sup>On the mountain height of Israel  
I will plant it,

in order that it may produce boughs and bear fruit,  
and become a noble cedar.

Under it every kind of bird will live;  
in the shade of its branches will nest  
winged creatures of every kind.

<sup>24</sup>All the trees of the field shall know  
that I am the LORD.

I bring low the high tree,  
I make high the low tree;

I dry up the green tree  
and make the dry tree flourish.

I the LORD have spoken;  
I will accomplish it.

Word of God, word of life.

Thanks be to God.

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

**Psalm 92:1-4, 12-15**

<sup>1</sup>It is a good thing to give thanks to the LORD,  
to sing praise to your name, O Most High;

<sup>2</sup>**to herald your love in the morning  
and your faithfulness at night;**

<sup>3</sup>on the psaltery, and on the lyre,  
and to the melody of the harp.

<sup>4</sup>**For you have made me glad by your acts, O LORD;  
and I shout for joy because of the works of your hands.**

<sup>12</sup>The righteous shall flourish like a palm tree,  
and shall spread abroad like a cedar of Lebanon.

<sup>13</sup>**Those who are planted in the house of the LORD  
shall flourish in the courts of our God;**

<sup>14</sup>they shall still bear fruit in old age;  
they shall be green and succulent;

<sup>15</sup>**that they may show how upright the LORD is,  
my rock, in whom there is no injustice.**

**SECOND READING**

**2 Corinthians 5:6-17**

*Paul encourages believers to live by faith and not by sight. We do not consider Jesus from a human perspective but through the eyes of faith, believing he died for all and was raised. All who are in Christ are now in God's new creation.*

<sup>6</sup>So we are always confident; even though we know that while we are at home in the body we are away from the Lord—<sup>7</sup>for we walk by faith, not by sight. <sup>8</sup>Yes, we do have confidence, and we would rather be away from the body and at home with the Lord. <sup>9</sup>So whether we are at home or away, we make it our aim to please him. <sup>10</sup>For all of us must



**Busy Bees need sugar!** We are collecting sugar to make our jelly. Please give your donation to one of the Busy Bees or you can drop it off in the church office

**Vacation Bible School!** This years program is Camp Firelight “A Summer Camp Adventure with God” and will be held July 8-12 from 9 am—12:30 pm. We have a few spots left, so register now. Registration forms are on the third floor bulletin board, in the weekly email, in the newsletter and on our social media sites. We still need some volunteers. Please let us know if you can help.



**Music Camp....**We are accepting registration for Music Camp. Registration forms are located on the third floor bulletin board, in the weekly email and in the newsletter. We are looking for experienced volunteers. Contact Martha at [mrequard1@gmail.com](mailto:mrequard1@gmail.com) if you can help.

**Join us for our inaugural Young Adult gathering** on Friday evening, July 19<sup>th</sup> at 8 pm in the Smith Building for an evening of fellowship, snacks and games! This event is specifically geared toward young adults 18+. If you plan to attend or have questions, please speak directly to the Pastors. RSVP by July 12<sup>th</sup>.



Those Serving Today	
Assisting Minister	Megan Czarski
Crucifer	Brody E.
Acolyte (s)	Landry E.
Lector	Bonnie Spellman
Communion Assistant	Bonnie Spellman
Dismissal Assistant	Alec B.

## Announcements & Upcoming Events

**Next Week— Sunday, June 23<sup>rd</sup>—Fifth Sunday after Pentecost**

† 9 am—Faith + Fellowship

† 10 am—Worship in-person  
and livestreamed on our YouTube Channel

Visit [stjohnsparkville.org](http://stjohnsparkville.org)



The beautiful flowers gracing our worship service today are given in honor of Judy Jasinski's birthday with love from Tony and Vickie. **Additional flowers** are given in memory of Carlton R. Insley, Sr. by his daughter, Betty Ehm.

**We are taking altar flower dedications for 2024.** The cost is \$50. Contact Rachel Hills at [rm\\_hills@yahoo.com](mailto:rm_hills@yahoo.com) if you would like to sponsor the flowers. Available dates are July 21<sup>st</sup>, August 18<sup>th</sup>, September 8<sup>th</sup>, 22<sup>nd</sup>, and 29<sup>th</sup>, October 6<sup>th</sup>, and 13<sup>th</sup>, November 3<sup>rd</sup>, 10<sup>th</sup>, and 17<sup>th</sup>, December 1<sup>st</sup>, 8<sup>th</sup>, 15<sup>th</sup>, 22<sup>nd</sup>, 24<sup>th</sup>, and 29<sup>th</sup>.

**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.



**YOUTH GROUP** St. John's Youth Group meets in the Youth Room on the first Sunday of the month, from about 11:15 am—12:30 pm. This group is for middle and high school students. Join us as we have fun, get to know one another and grow in faith. See you there!

**Faith and Fellowship meets in the Fellowship Hall on the first floor from 9 am—9:45 am each Sunday.** This is an opportunity for adults to gather for light refreshments and to grow in faith.



**Thanks to everyone who attended and helped with the Community Meals and Wednesday night worship.** We are taking July and August off to give everyone a break for the summer. We will begin again in September.



**Join us at Casa Mia's this Tuesday, June 18<sup>th</sup>, in White Marsh, from 11 am—10 pm for our next Restaurant Night.** Bring a flyer or a picture of the flyer to participate.



**VACATION** Pastors' Mathew & Amy will be on vacation June, 18<sup>th</sup>–24<sup>th</sup>. In the event of an emergency, call the church office during office hours or after hours call the emergency number at 443-844-9314.

**St. John's night at the Ironbirds game** is coming up on Friday, June 28<sup>th</sup> at 7:05 pm. If you purchased tickets, we will see you there.



appear before the judgment seat of Christ, so that each may receive recompense for what has been done in the body, whether good or evil.

[<sup>11</sup>Therefore, knowing the fear of the Lord, we try to persuade others; but we ourselves are well known to God, and I hope that we are also well known to your consciences. <sup>12</sup>We are not commending ourselves to you again, but giving you an opportunity to boast about us, so that you may be able to answer those who boast in outward appearance and not in the heart. <sup>13</sup>For if we are beside ourselves, it is for God; if we are in our right mind, it is for you. ] <sup>14</sup>For the love of Christ urges us on, because we are convinced that one has died for all; therefore all have died. <sup>15</sup>And he died for all, so that those who live might live no longer for themselves, but for him who died and was raised for them.

<sup>16</sup>From now on, therefore, we regard no one from a human point of view; even though we once knew Christ from a human point of view, we know him no longer in that way. <sup>17</sup>So if anyone is in Christ, there is a new creation: everything old has passed away; see, everything has become new!

Word of God, word of life.

**Thanks be to God.**

*(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

**Mark 4:26-34**

*Jesus frequently uses parables to teach ordinary people as they are able to hear and understand. Images of sowing and growing show the vitality of God's kingdom.*

The Holy Gospel according to Mark.

**Glory to you, O Lord.**

<sup>26</sup>[Jesus] said, "The kingdom of God is as if someone would scatter seed on the ground, <sup>27</sup>and would sleep and rise night and day, and the seed would sprout and grow, he does not know how. <sup>28</sup>The earth produces of itself, first the stalk, then the head, then the full grain in the head. <sup>29</sup>But when the grain is ripe, at once he goes in with his sickle,

because the harvest has come.”

<sup>30</sup>He also said, “With what can we compare the kingdom of God, or what parable will we use for it? <sup>31</sup>It is like a mustard seed, which, when sown upon the ground, is the smallest of all the seeds on earth; <sup>32</sup>yet when it is sown it grows up and becomes the greatest of all shrubs, and puts forth large branches, so that the birds of the air can make nests in its shade.”

<sup>33</sup>With many such parables he spoke the word to them, as they were able to hear it; <sup>34</sup>he did not speak to them except in parables, but he explained everything in private to his disciples.

The Gospel of the Lord.

**Praise to you, O Christ.**

*(The assembly is seated.)*

**SERMON**

*(Please stand as you are able.)*

**HYMN OF THE DAY**      *God of the Fertile Fields (See Insert)*      **ACS 1063**

*(Text: Georgia Harkness, 1891-1973, alt.; Music: Felicie de Giardini, 1716-1796; Text © 1955, ren. 1983 The Hymn Society, admin. Hope Publishing Co.)*

**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 Christ’s peace. Afterwards, the assembly is seated.)*

**MEAL**

**OFFERTORY MUSIC**      *Reflection on “Bunessan”*      *Edward Landin*  
*(© 2017 Lorenz Publishing Co.)*

life. In your name we pray.

**Amen.**

**ANNOUNCEMENTS**

**SENDING**

**BLESSING**

Life is short,  
and we do not have much time  
to gladden the hearts of those who make the journey with us.  
So be swift to love,  
and make haste to be kind.  
And the blessing of God,  
Father, Son + Holy Spirit  
be with you now and forever.  
**Amen.**

**SENDING HYMN**

*Sent Forth by God’s Blessing*

**ELW 547**

*(Text: Omer Wastendorf, 1916-1997, alt.; Music: Welsh folk tune; Text © 1964 World Library Publications)*

**DISMISSAL**

Go in peace. You are the body of Christ.  
**Thanks be to God.**

**POSTLUDE**

*Raise the Sound of Praise*

*Edward Broughton*

*(© 2006 Lorenz Publishing Co.)*

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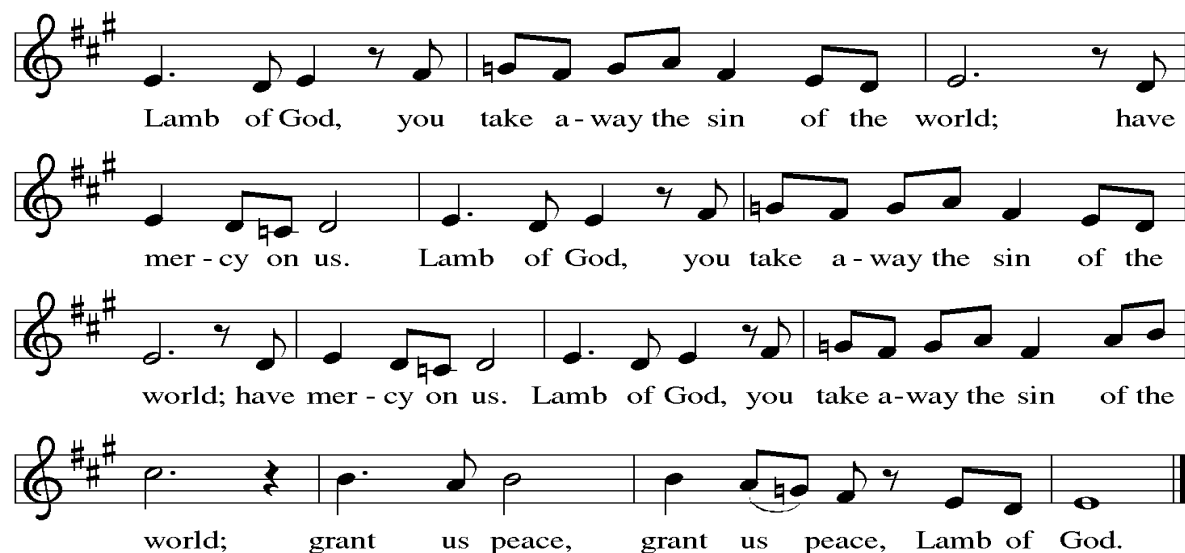
*the communion assistant will fill it with a sip of wine. The cups that are already filled contain grape juice. After drinking, place the used cup in the basket on your way back to your seat.*

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

## INVITATION TO COMMUNION

Christ has set the table with more than enough for all.  
Come!

## 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 HYMNS *Build Us Up, Lord* **ELW 670**

*(Text and music: Mark Glaeser, b. 1956, and Donna Hallan, b. 1952; Text and music © Augsburg Fortress)*

## *For the Fruit of All Creation* **ELW 679**

*(Text: Fred Pratt Green, 1903-2000; Music: Welsh traditional; arr. Ralph Vaughan Williams, 1872-1958; Text © 1970 Hope Publishing Company; Arr. © Oxford University Press)*

*(Please remain seated.)*

## PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

Jesus, Bread of life,  
we have received from your table more than we could ever ask.  
As you have nourished us in this meal, now strengthen us to love the world with your own

*Thank you for your generous support of St. John's. During this time an offering is gathered for the mission and ministry of the Church as together we experience and share God's abundant grace and love.*

*Many in our congregation give online. You can set up one-time or recurring donations on our website [stjohnsparkville.org](http://stjohnsparkville.org). Checks and cash may be placed in the offering plate or mailed to the church. You may also donate via venmo @stjohnsparkville*



*(Please stand as you are able.)*

## OFFERING HYMN

*As the Grains of Wheat*

**ELW 465**

*(Text: Didache, 2<sup>nd</sup> cent.; Marty Haugen, b. 1950; Music: Marty Haugen; Text and music © 1990 GIA Publications, Inc.)*

## OFFERING PRAYER

Jesus, Bread of life,  
you have set this table with your very self,  
and called us to the feast of plenty.  
Gather what has been sown among us,  
and strengthen us in this meal.  
Make us to be what we receive here,  
your body for the life of the world.  
**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;  
who on this day overcame death and the grave,  
and by his glorious resurrection opened to us the way of everlasting life.  
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

*1.*

Du är he - lig, du är hel. Du är all - tid myck-et mer  
You are ho - ly, you are whole. You are al - ways ev - er more

än vi nån - sin kan för - stå, du är nä - ra än - då.  
than we ev - er un - der - stand. You are al - ways at hand.

Väl - sig - nad va - re du som kom - mer hit just nu,  
Bless - ed are you com - ing near. Bless - ed are you com - ing here

väl - sig - na - de vår jord, blir till bröd på vår jord.  
to your church in wine and bread, raised from soil, raised from dead.

*2.*

Du är he - lig, du är hel - het,  
You are ho - ly, you are whole - ness,

du är när - het he - la kos - mos lo - var dig!  
you are pres - ent. Let the cos - mos praise you, Lord!

Ho - si - an - na, ho - si - an - na,  
Sing ho - san - na in the high - est!

ho - si - an - na, ho - si - an - na vår Gud.  
Sing ho - san - na to our God!

(Text and music: Per Harling, b. 1948; Text and music © 1990 Ton Vis Produktion AB, admin.  
Augsburg Fortress)

## THANKSGIVING AT THE TABLE

Holy God,  
Breath of life and Fire of love:  
with a mighty wind you brought creation into being,  
and by a pillar of fire you led your people into freedom.

We praise you for the gift of your Son,  
who poured out your Spirit on all nations.

In the night in which he was betrayed...

Remembering, therefore,  
his death, resurrection,  
and the sending of the holy and life-giving Spirit,  
we await his coming again to renew the face of the earth.

Send now your Holy Spirit upon us and upon this meal:  
anoint us with your gifts of faith, hope, and love,  
that, with thankful hearts,  
we may be witnesses to your Son.

Blessing, praise, and thanks  
to you, holy God,  
through Christ Jesus,  
by your Spirit,  
in your church,  
without end.  
**Amen.**

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.**

*(The assembly is seated.)*

## 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*