

ST. JOHN'S UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST

139 N. Fourth Street
Emmaus, Pennsylvania

May 29, 2011

Sixth Sunday of Easter

8:00 & 10:30 AM

The People of God Gather For Worship

Thought for Meditation: *"The strength of a country is the strength of its religious convictions."*

- Calvin Coolidge

Organ Prelude

...All May Stand...

Processional Hymn: *"O Beautiful for Spacious Skies"* #720
...Please Be Seated...

Welcome and Announcements

...All May Stand...

Solemn Declaration

Call to Worship:

Leader: The God of heaven and earth calls us together.
We come to explore matters of the Spirit.

People: **There is so much we do not know or understand.**
So much of God is unknown to us.

Leader: Let us look carefully at the objects of our worship.
Our attention is easily diverted from God.

People: **We want to worship the One who gives us breath.**
We reach for the Reality beyond our knowing.

Leader: In God we live and move and have our being.
All that we have and are comes from God.

People: **God is not limited to shrines made by us.**
God is everywhere present in the whole universe.

The People of God Confess Their Sins

Act of Confession:

Leader: Let us confess our sins.

People: **O God, we confess that we have loved our own way more than we love you. The Spirit of truth does not abide in us, for our actions belie the words of praise we utter in worship. We neglect the spiritual disciplines that would draw us close to you and the caring outreach that would link us with sisters and brothers who need to know of your love. We have not witnessed to our faith in ways powerful enough to evoke opposition or cause us to suffer. O God, it is hard to follow Jesus! Forgive us, teach us, help us! Amen.**

Silent Confession

Kyrie:

Leader: Lord, have mercy upon us.

People: **Lord, have mercy upon us.**

Leader: Christ, have mercy upon us.

People: **Christ, have mercy upon us.**

Leader: Lord, have mercy upon us.

People: **Lord, have mercy upon us.**

Assurance of Forgiveness:

Leader: **You are not left to struggle alone. You have an Advocate who is always with you. You are not rejected. God hears your prayers and offers you steadfast love in all circumstances. Do not be afraid to hope, and to share that hope with others around you. Claim God's gifts of reverence and gentleness as you testify to the resurrection. Who will harm you if you are eager to do what is good?**

Sung Response: *"Gloria Patri"*

Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Ghost; as it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be, world without end. Amen. Amen.

...Please Be Seated...

The People of God Share the Word of God

A Time to Pass Our Faith Onto Our Children (10:30)
The Holy Scripture:
First Lesson: Acts 7:55-60 Page 902
Second Lesson: 1 Peter 3:13-22 Page 985
Gospel Lesson: John 14:15-21 Page 877

Sermon: "If Love" Rev. Dr. Paul W. Knappenberger
...*All May Stand...*

A Prayer for the Nation #723

Hymn: "*Let There Be Peace on Earth*" #677
...*Please Be Seated...*

The People of God Pray

Celebrations of Joy and Moments of Concern

Leader: The Lord be with you.

People: **And also with you.**

Leader: Let us pray.

Pastoral Prayer

Silent Prayer

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 debts, as we forgive our debtors.

And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil.

For thine is the Kingdom, and the power, and the glory, for ever.

Amen.

Prayer Response: #259

Spirit of the living God, fall afresh on me.

Spirit of the living God, fall afresh on me.

Melt me, mold me, fill me, use me.

Spirit of the living God, fall afresh on me.

Sharing our Tithes and Offerings

Invitation

The Offering

The Offertory Organ Meditation (8:00)

Senior Choir Anthem: "*God Bless America Medley*" (10:30)
arr. Mercer

The congregation is invited to stand and join in the singing of our national anthem.

The Offertory Response: "*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.

Offertory Prayer

The People of God Go Forth In Mission

Commission and Blessing:

Leader: God has listened to our prayers and abides with us.
God's blessing rests on us as we scatter to serve.

People: **The Spirit lives within us and among us.**

We seek to live as resurrection people.

Leader: Daily God will add to you understanding if you ask.
Do not fear to seek after the truth God will reveal.

People: **Every day can be an adventure in faith.**

All our encounters can link us more closely with God.

Leader: Our Creator draws us into community.

Our spiritual journey is linked to others' stories.

People: **Together we will seek to know God more fully.**

We will remember one another in prayer.

Threefold Amen

Recessional Hymn: "*This Is My Song*" #722

Silent Moment

Postlude: "*Fanfare*" arr. Lemmons

Preparation for Worship

Thank you, Jesus, for the promised gift of the Holy Spirit, who abides in us always.

Welcome

Welcome to worship on Memorial Day weekend. Today we remember those who've given their lives for our earthly freedom — and worship the One who died and rose to ensure our eternal freedom.

Stewardship Moment To Get or Give?

“The key of the selfish, unregenerate person is *get*. The key word of the dedicated Christian should be *give*. The Prodigal Son set off a series of negative events destined for failure when he said to his father, ‘Give me the portion of goods that falleth to me’ (Luke 15:12).”

Children’s Bulletins are available for age groups 3 to 6 and 7 to 12.

Large-print Bulletins are available for anyone who requests one.

Church Time Nursery is across the hall from the Family Room.

Please ask our ushers to assist you with any of these needs



TODAY'S WORSHIP PARTICIPANTS

8:00 AM

<i>Acolytes:</i>	Alexis Hanna, Shania Koehler
<i>Lay Reader:</i>	Linda Hengeveld
<i>Greeters:</i>	Beverly Binder, Adele Schaffer
<i>Ushers:</i>	Dolores Fioriglio, Matthew Beck, Steve Heck, Rick Snyder
<i>Sound System:</i>	Jim Schaffer

10:30 AM

<i>Acolytes:</i>	Joscelyn Hengeveld, Renee Martin
<i>Lay Reader:</i>	Linda Gardner
<i>Greeters:</i>	Jean Bednar, Marilyn Decker, Gloria Steager
<i>Ushers:</i>	Tom Capehart, Dave Davis, Sarae Quinn, Scott Stenroos
<i>Sound System:</i>	Russell Drabick
<i>Tape Ministry:</i>	Nancy Wieder
<i>Nursery:</i>	Angie Karol, Heather Gross
<i>Flower Delivery:</i>	Les Schoenberger
<i>Hospitality:</i>	Donna Wert

CHURCH STAFF

Rev. Dr. Paul W. Knappenberger, Senior Pastor,
pstpaul@stjohnsuccemmaus.org
Rev. Curt Sandrock, Assisting Pastor
Patrice DiCarne, Minister of Music
Colleen Bernini, Administrative Secretary
Diane Ritter, Financial Secretary, dedemarit@juno.com
Pat Dillman, Director of Christian Education
Kayli Freeman, Seminarian
Keith Draves, Youth Group Advisor
Cheryl Clauser, Sexton
Church Office Hours: 8:30 to 11:30 & 12:30 to 3:30
Phone Number: 610.965.9158.....Fax Number: 610.967.5380
Email: office@stjohnsuccemmaus.org
Website: www.stjohnsuccemmaus.org

ST. JOHN'S CALENDAR

Sunday, May 29

8:00 am Worship Service
9:15 am Sunday School for all ages
10:30 am Worship Service

Monday, May 30

Church Office Closed

Tuesday, May 31

9:00 am Quilts For Kids
6:00 pm Daisy Troop #61130

Wednesday, June 1

5:30 pm Executive Committee
6:30 pm Boy Scout Troop #25
7:00 pm Journeys Through Grief (Parlor)
7:45 pm Senior Choir

Thursday, June 2

6:30 pm Cadettes #6678
6:30 pm Jr. GS Troop #6123
6:30 pm Cub Scouts – All Dens

Saturday, June 4

8:30 am AA
8:30 am Al Anon

Sunday, June 5

8:00 am Worship Service/Holy Communion
9:15 am Sunday school for all ages
10:30 am Worship Service/Holy Communion

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Church Announcements for Sunday, May 29, 2011

May Mission - Strengthen the Church

During the month of May, we will be receiving this special mission offering for the United Church of Christ. It grows the UCC by funding new church starts and invigorating existing congregations by nurturing lay and pastoral leaderships and builds youth and young adult ministries. All gifts are directed to activities and programs of your local conference as well as the UCC's national ministries.

Penn Northeast Conference Work Camp, Back Bay Mission in Biloxi, Mississippi

On September 10, 2011, thirty-four people representing eight UCC churches will travel to Back Bay Mission in Biloxi, MS to participate in a work camp that will continue the work of rebuilding homes and hearts after the devastating effects of Hurricane Katrina. Edgar and Linda Roosa will be representing St. John's Church. The group is responsible for all costs, including: transportation to and from Biloxi, food while there, gas and vans used for transportation to and from the work areas. To help off-set the costs, three fundraisers have been organized: an electronic recycling event, June 4, a benefit fundraiser during the month of July at McDonald's in Hellertown and in May the sale of Wixon shoo-fly pies. If you have any questions, please contact Ed or Linda Roosa at 610-966-1459 or leroosa@ptd.net.

Thank You!

Thank you to everyone who ordered Shoofly pies and/or made donations to the PNEC September work camp at Back Bay Mission in Biloxi, MS. A total of 98 pies were ordered! Your support is very much appreciated. Pies may be picked up in the lower narthex after both services on Sunday, June 5th. Ed and Linda Roosa.

Vacation Bible School

VBS will be held at 9:15 to 11:30 AM on July 18th through July 22nd and the VBS Sunday program on July 24th for four year olds through 5th grade. Adult Leaders and Teen Helpers are needed. Visit the display in the narthex and pick up a Leader/Helper registration form. Forms can be returned to the Director of Christian Education office on the fourth floor or dropped off in the church office. Registration for children to attend can be found at the display. Please return those forms to the VBS basket located at the display. Join us for a walk through the "Seasons of Faith."

Summer Sunday School

Summer Sunday School is planned provided we have enough adult help. Teachers need time off so WE NEED YOUR HELP! Adult Leaders and Teen Helpers are needed. Please sign up any Sundays you are able to help (you do not need to do lesson plans, they are already planned.) Visit the Summer Sunday School display in the narthex. If we do not have enough adult helpers, this program will be cancelled for the summer. Watch for announcements in the next three weeks.

Summer Sunday School will start June 26 and take place during the church worship hour starting at 9:15 AM. This will be a combined group, individual classes will begin again in the fall. Children will meet in the Blue Room at the end of the hall on the fourth floor. Join us for stories, crafts, games, and special activities. See Pat Dillman for more information or questions.

Re-Creation

Re-Creation singers will return to St. John's on Sunday, June 19th at 9:15 AM to conduct our worship service. They were here in September of 2008 to lead us in worship and many members have asked when they will return. The SACRED PROGRAM is designed as a worship service and features both traditional and contemporary styles, sing-a-long hymns and children's songs. This year's program, "Stand Strong", is a live worship experience unlike any other! These college age young singers devote at least one year of their life to travel with Re-Creation at no compensation. Re-Creation operates on a free-will offering all of which is used to present their program to our Hospitalized Veterans throughout the United States at no cost to the hospital or veterans. The Freedom Foundation at Valley Forge cited the young people of Re-Creation as "*America's Ambassadors to Hospitalized Veterans*" for providing the only program of its kind in America.

****Please note, St. John's has received permission for overflow parking at the Rodale parking lot on Sixth and North Streets.****

Re-Creation Patron

Become a Re-Creation patron by filling out the flyer in the bulletin and give it to the member of the Worship and Music committee at the reception desk in the Narthex after the service this morning. You can also fill out the form and place it with your donation in one of the pew envelopes and place it in the collection plate. Mark the envelope "Re-Creation".

For Sale

White clam sauce is available for sale at \$5.00 per quart. Please see Fred Bartholomew or Wendy Moyer-Drabick to pay and pickup.

St. John's Nursery

There will not be an attendant in the nursery during summer hours starting June 19th. The nursery will be open and available for parents to use and watch their own children.

"Souper" Carnival

On Saturday, June 25th a carnival will be held at Jordan UCC, Rt. 309 and Walbert Avenue, to benefit the Lehigh County Conference of Churches Soup Kitchen. In 2010, the Soup Kitchen served 35,500 meals; for many low income people these meals are helping them live a better life. St. John's has six teams of volunteers, each of which serve the meals twice a year. The carnival will be held from noon until 7 PM, and will feature arts and crafts for sale, games for children, food, door prizes and a silent auction. Beginning today, May 22nd, we will be selling tickets for the door prizes; tickets are \$1 for 1 ticket. A sample of the door prizes being offered are an 8GB Walkman Video MP3 player, a 7 inch screen portable DVD player, a 5 hour fishing trip with Backwoods Angler. Please support the Soup Kitchen by buying a few tickets and attending the carnival on June 25th. Thank you.

Kiwanis Club of Emmaus Breakfast

The Kiwanis Club of Emmaus is hosting its 38th Annual Pancake & Sausage Breakfast on Sunday, June 5th from 8:00 AM to 1:00 PM at the Emaus Fire Company #1, 6th & Broad Streets. Tickets are \$5.00 per person and children 10 & under eat free.

"Think Sauerkraut"

It's time to start thinking about our annual Pork & Sauerkraut Dinner! Mark the following dates on your calendar: Sauerkraut Production – Sunday, September 11, noon until?, Applesauce Production – Monday, November 7th at 9 AM, Pork and Sauerkraut Dinner – November 12th, doors open at 3 and close at 7 PM. Ticket sales will start September 11th. The cost is still \$10.00 for adults and \$5.00 for children under 12. Toddlers eat free.

A Note from the Garden Committee

If parishioners would like to donate flowers they'd like to see in God's church garden, the Garden Committee would be happy to receive them. In the past we planted marigolds, impatiens, snapdragons, and geraniums. If interested, please contact Mary Ann Held.

Confidentiality

It is important that we honor the rights to privacy of medical information for our St. John's members. If someone in the congregation shares a prayer concern, a medical issue, or hospitalization information with you, **please ask their permission** before sharing that information with the pastors, Undershepherd Ministry, Prayer Tree or church office, or for announcement in worship. If you are hospitalized or are sharing any prayer concerns, the pastors will ask your permission before disclosing information to anyone beyond the pastoral staff.

Church Hospital Code Number is 466!

The pastors visit our hospitalized members. If you, or a member of your family enters the hospital, please ask the hospital to place the patient's name on church code #466, St. John's UCC, Emmaus or call the church office to inform us at 610-965-9158.

Recently Hospitalized – Wayne Schlegel

Greeting Cards

The Undershepherd Ministries give us the opportunity to sign greeting cards for folks on our Home Visitation List, for members of the congregation who need a lift, or just to say "hello". All cards are in the Narthex. Please take a minute to sign the cards and send these folks our Christian greetings. Today we are signing cards for:

Pauline Fretz, Ronald Keck, Patricia Moyer and Family, Avatine Kohler

The Altar Flowers are sponsored by Maggie Fenstermacher and Family in memory of father and grandfather, Private Russell Stein, killed in action during WWII, and to all other veterans who gave the supreme sacrifice and also to honor all veterans who have served or are presently serving for freedom and justice.

The Bulletins are sponsored by Paul and Betty DeVries and Thom Snyder in honor of Sue and Thom's 35th wedding anniversary.

Church Attendance – Sunday, May 22, 2011: 8:30 – 70 10:30 AM - 93

Income Report for Sunday, May 22, 2011:

Mortgage Account (BOFFT, Building Blocks, Building Fund) – \$3,949.81
General Fund - \$648.00