

ST. JOHN'S UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST

139 N. Fourth Street
Emmaus, Pennsylvania

May 22, 2011

Fifth Sunday of Easter

8:00 & 10:30 AM

The People of God Gather For Worship

Thought for Meditation: *"To go against one's conscience is neither safe nor right. Here I stand. I cannot do otherwise."*

- Martin Luther

Organ Prelude

...All May Stand...

Processional Hymn: *"Great Is Thy Faithfulness"*

#86

...Please Be Seated...

Welcome and Announcements

...All May Stand...

Solemn Declaration

Call to Worship:

Leader: Gaze into heaven and see the glory of God.

Lift up your eyes to behold the risen Christ.

People: **God is our rock of refuge, a strong fortress.**

Christ leads us and guides us every day.

Leader: Indeed, you have tasted the goodness of God.

You have known the presence of Christ, God's chosen one.

People: **Every day we long for pure spiritual milk.**

Each day, we are inspired by the living Christ.

Leader: Then let us lay our troubles at Christ's feet.

Let us enter the sanctuary God prepares for us.

People: **We have come to find the way, the truth, and the life.**

We are here to ask and to receive and to serve.

The People of God Confess Their Sins

Act of Confession:

Leader: Let us confess our sins and seek God's mercy and forgiveness.

People: **We confess that sometimes we have covered our ears so we cannot hear your word of judgment, holy God. We seek to isolate ourselves from a world of pain. We become enemies and persecutors of Christ, who identified with poor, needy, and oppressed people. We reject the One you sent as the way, the truth, and the life. We do not pray, as Jesus prayed, trusting that you hear and respond. O God, deliver us from ourselves. 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: **Let not your hearts be troubled. Whoever believes in God will not be put to shame. If you truly believe, you will show care for others. When you care, you will join in doing the things Jesus did to help all the people God loves. You are chosen to proclaim the mighty acts of the One who called you out of the shadows into God's marvelous light. Rejoice! You have received the mercy of God.**

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 891

Second Lesson: 1 Peter 2:2-10 Page 984

Gospel Lesson: John 14:1-14 Page 877

Sermon: "Were It Not So?" Rev. Dr. Paul W. Knappenberger
...*All May Stand...*

Apostles' Creed

**I believe in God the Father Almighty,
Maker of heaven and earth:
And in Jesus Christ his only begotten Son, our Lord;
who was conceived by the Holy Ghost, born of the Virgin Mary,
suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, dead, and buried;
he descended into hades;
the third day he rose again from the dead;
he ascended into heaven, and sitteth on the right hand of God
the Father Almighty;
from thence he shall come to judge the quick and the dead.
I believe in the Holy Ghost; the holy catholic church;
the communion of saints; the forgiveness of sins;
the resurrection of the body; and the life everlasting. Amen.**

Hymn: "O Christ, the Way, the Truth, the Life" #432
...*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 Interlude (8:00)

Senior Choir Anthem: "You Are My All in All" (10:30)

...*All May Stand...*

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:* Jesus sends us out into paths of service.
We are summoned to greater works than Jesus did.
- People:** **How is it possible for us to do more than Jesus did?**
Can we preach and pray and heal as Jesus did?
- Leader:* We are chosen as Christ's representatives.
We are the church, the body of Christ on earth.
- People:** **Together we can make a difference.**
God is at work in us to heal our world.
- Leader:* Christ has gone on ahead to prepare a place for us.
Following in Christ's way, we know fullness of life.
- People:** **We believe God dwells in us and among us.**
God's mighty acts are revealed through us.

Threefold Amen

Recessional Hymn: "On Eagle's Wings" #77

Silent Moment

Postlude: "Fugue" "Handel

Preparation for Worship

Jesus, you are the Way, the Truth and the Life. Quiet our hearts as we worship you and listen for your guidance.

Welcome

On this spring day, as new life blossoms and is born around us, we're glad you've joined us to worship and praise the Lord of new life.

Stewardship Moment

Ironic, Isn't It?

Ironic, isn't it? The more God blesses us financially, the more difficult our decision to keep putting first in our lives the God who blesses us. What kinds of choices are you making with your money?

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

- Acolytes:* Emily Hartranft, Brian Lance
Lay Reader: Jean Deischer
Greeters: Jennifer Hartranft, Bonnie Keck
Ushers: Marty Beers, Adam Beers, Curt Fehr, Barry Miller
Sound System: Mike Ackerman

10:30 AM

- Acolytes:* Olivia DeLong, Emily Drabick
Lay Reader: Floyd Schmoyer
Greeters: Ben and Carolyn Powell, Anna Jane Kelley
Ushers: Russell Drabick, Wendy Moyer-Drabick, Jim Gardner, Linda Gardner
Sound System: Darren Labenberg
Tape Ministry: Floyd Schmoyer
Nursery: Alex Racines, Sarah Demmy
Flower Delivery: Ron and Gerry Mosemann
Hospitality: Ben and Carolyn Powell

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 22

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

Monday, May 23

7:00 pm Mission Committee

Tuesday, May 24

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

Wednesday, May 25

St. John's Golf Tournament

10:00 am 10-2 Club
6:30 pm Confirmation Class
6:30 pm Boy Scout Troop #25
7:00 pm Journeys Through Grief (Parlor)
7:45 pm Senior Choir

Thursday, May 26

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

Saturday, May 28

8:30 am AA
8:30 am Al Anon

Sunday, May 29

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

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Church Announcements for Sunday, May 22, 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.

Shoe-fly Pies Benefit PNEC Biloxi Workcamp

The pies are from Wixon Bakery. The cost is \$4.00 for an 8" wet-bottom shoo-fly pie. Orders will be taken in the church narthex on the following Sundays: May 8, 15 & 22. Delivery is June 5 in the church narthex.

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.

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.

Cub Pack 25 Chick-fil-A Fund Raiser

Help support Emmaus Cub Pack 25 on Friday, May 27th at the Chik-fil-A in Trexlertown between the hours of 4 and 8:00 PM. Dine-in, Carry Out or Drive-Thru. Please inform cashiers you are there to support Cub Pack 25 and put your receipt in the “Pack Night Box.” The Pack will receive 15% of sales earned for the evening. So go ahead and enjoy the night out while helping the Pack!

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.

Golf Tournament

St. John's Golf Tournament will be held on Wednesday, May 25th at Shepherd Hills Golf Club. \$70.00 per player includes gold, cart, lunch, drinks, prizes, and fellowship. Sponsor a hole for a minimum donation of \$40.00. For more information, contact Carl Wieder at 610-965-5295 or Jack Marsh at 610-965-5189.

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.

White Rose

The White Rose placed on the altar this morning is in memory of **Albert Moyer** who passed away on May 14th. We offer our prayers and support for his family and friends.

Youth Group

The Faithful Followers Youth Group will meet tonight from 6 to 8:00 PM.

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.

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:

Shirley and Neil Polster, Lawrence Delhagen, Sr., Eleanor Marsh, Jake Kleppinger, Ken Schoch

The Altar Flowers are sponsored by Ellie Oswald in loving memory of husband, Larry Oswald.

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 15, 2011: 8:30 – 54 10:30 AM - 140

Income Report for Sunday, May 15, 2011:

Mortgage Account (BOFFT, Building Blocks, Building Fund) – \$1,174.00
General Fund - \$3,612.30