

# On Eagle's Wings



## St. John's Monthly Newsletter – June 2025

### Pastor's Paragraphs

The First Council of Nicea began in May 325 and ran through July of that year. Now in 2025 we are celebrating its 1700<sup>th</sup> anniversary. The council was the first legal gathering of Christian leaders from throughout the world. It was called by Roman Emperor Constantine to deal with some serious issues of heresy. While it could be said that Constantine called the council for political reasons, it was still the first time Christians could really come to common agreement on some of the biggest questions of faith. Debates and arguments were often heated. There is even a story that Nicholas, Bishop of Myra (a.k.a. Santa Claus) punched the heretic Arius in the face. The story isn't true but it does accurately challenge the "Jolly Old St. Nicholas" image that our culture has invented.

It was long believed that the Nicene Creed was written at the council. Strictly speaking, that is not true. However, the issues the Nicene Creed deals with were definitely addressed there. The Nicene Creed didn't come to its current form until the First Council of Constantinople in the year 481.

We don't use the Nicene Creed in worship all that often – usually only for Communion services in the seasons of Advent, Christmas, Lent, and Easter. Perhaps you groan when you open the bulletin and see the long creed. It is full of complex concepts and obscure words. It is probably hard to make sense of as we read it. We may find ourselves thinking things like, "Who cares?" and, "What's the big deal?" Yet it is a big deal. All of it is! For example, it is actually a VERY big deal that we understand that Jesus was, "begotten, not made." Get that belief wrong and you can quickly end up with a very warped Christianity. I won't go into the issues here, but I will note that each and every word of the creed (originally written in Greek) has been painstakingly chosen, and each word bears weight. The Nicene Creed is the oldest creed. (The Apostles Creed is actually newer.) And it is the only Christian doctrine accepted as authoritative by Christians throughout the world. No word can ever be added, subtracted, or changed. Complex as it is, and even as we may not understand it, the Nicene Creed is what we depend upon for biblical interpretation and for Christian beliefs overall.

June 15 is Holy Trinity Sunday. It is a fitting Sunday to remember the Council of Nicea and appreciate the

issues it wrestled with. 1700 years later we benefit greatly from their efforts.

Don't groan when you see the Nicene Creed show up in a worship service. Even as its words are obscure and its issues may seem archaic, remember that it is what makes our faith work and we depend upon it every day. Blessings,  
Pastor Jon



### Ascension Day Worship 7pm

Ascension Day is Thursday, May 29. Last year we celebrated this major church holiday with a worship service. We will do the same again this year. If the weather permits, we'll start inside with a song and gathering dialog. Then we'll process to the outdoor chapel for Bible readings, a brief sermon, and a launch of model rockets. If you have a rocket you'd like to fly please bring it! A couple others will be made as well.



### 8:30 Worship Outdoors

The 8:30 worship service is using the Outdoor Chapel for the summer. Sometimes it is very sunny and hot on the benches. You are welcome to bring a lawn chair and sit in the shade. Also, please remember that the grass is often wet. You will want to wear appropriate shoes. If you are unable to walk to the chapel you are welcome to drive your car there, and even sit in your car during the service.

## June Worship Assistants

	June 1	June 8	June 15	June 22	June 29
Greeters & Ushers	Helen Crown	Phyllis Henderson	Linda Flood	Janice Lockwood	Rob Stroup
Acolyte	Charlotte Stroup	Elijah Young	Thomas Bullwinkle	Alyssa Young	Charlotte Stroup
Altar Care (10:30)	Mary Zuege		Mary Zuege		
Communion Assistants	Greg Zuege		Nancy Pape		
Counters	Bruce and Connie Stevenson	Linda Flood and a helper	John and Linda Thompson	Bill and Katy Stimmel	Mary and Greg Zuege
Coffee Hour			The Stuarts		



### Upcoming Bible Readings from Luke for Worship

Luke 9:28-43a is the Transfiguration story. It marks a turning point in Jesus' ministry. From the Transfiguration onward Jesus turns towards Jerusalem, and what will eventually be the crucifixion. Most of our gospel readings in June are about this shift in Jesus' ministry.

- 6/1 Luke 9:43b-62
- 6/8 Luke 10:1-24 (Pentecost)
- 6/15 John 16:12-15 (Holy Trinity)
- 6/22 Luke 10:25-42
- 6/29 Luke 11:1-13



### Worship In-person and Zoom

10:30 is in-person worship in the sanctuary and also by Zoom. The Zoom link for 10:30 is emailed weekly. If you cannot connect to the 10:30 service with a computer you can still hear and participate in the service with any phone.

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/85898911838?pwd=Ho0hGtKqSJAnRpugabpkQTuY73SbyK.1>

Meeting ID: 858 9891 1838

Passcode: 020293

By phone:

1 929 436 2866 US (New York)

### Community Outreach

#### Maggie's Kids Summer Camp

July 14<sup>th</sup> will be our day with Maggie's Kids this year. If you would like to help out that day let Burdie Gillern know. Instead of bringing in lunch items this year we will use financial donations. Checks written to St. John's would be appreciated. There will be envelopes labeled "Maggie's Kids" on the bulletin board for any donations. Thanks so much.

### Lawn Mowing Volunteers

We are looking for people to help mow the church lawn. There is a commercial mower that is easy to use, a zero turn mower, and a small lawn tractor. It usually takes a couple hours for a team of two. Training is available. Talk to Tom Urbanic if you're willing to help.



### Garden Project 2024

Everything was planted in the Garden on May 24. Now we pause a bit until the plants, and the weeds, start to grow! There is very little hand weeding needed. Most weeding is done with the tractor and cultivator. If you are able to help with operating the tractor, one of the cultivators, or one of the rototillers please be in touch with Pastor Jon.



- Thank you to everyone who helped with the spring cleanup day. A special thank you to Boy Scout Troop 61 for helping.
- Thank you to everyone who helped with mowing the lawn in May.
- Thank you to Gary Boisseau and Mary Zuege for making pancakes for Easter Sunday.
- Thank you to Elizabeth Young for organizing the youth group viewing of *King of Kings*.
- Thank you to Morgan Sackett for preparing the eggs for the little children's Easter egg hunt on Palm Sunday.



- David Storch as he lives in a memory care facility.
- Alex Clark, friend of the Shulers. He is a 38 year old father who was recently diagnosed with stomach and intestinal cancer.
- Marilyn Bair who is currently home and is improving slightly in health.
- Paul Huber as he recovers from multiple falls.



## Red Cross Blood Drive

The American Red Cross is having a blood drive at church on Monday, June 2, from 1:30 to 6:30. Please go to [redcrossblood.org](http://redcrossblood.org) to make an appointment.

## May Council Highlights

Church council held a its regular monthly meeting on May 12. Major items on the agenda were:

- reports from the various committees
- prayer labyrinth update
- prayers at the 10:30 service
- acquiring new equipment for the youth like foosball and ping pong



## May Bible Trivia Questions

1. When Jesus asks the disciples who do people say that he is, which disciples recognizes him as the Messiah of God? Answer: Peter (Luke 9:20)
2. How many dwellings (or tents) does Peter offer to make at the Transfiguration? Answer: Three (Luke 9:33)
3. What does Jesus eat in front of the disciples to prove that he was really resurrected? Answer: Fish (Luke 24:42)
4. What city are the disciples to stay in after the resurrection until they are, "clothed with power from on high"? Answer: Jerusalem (Luke 24:49-52)

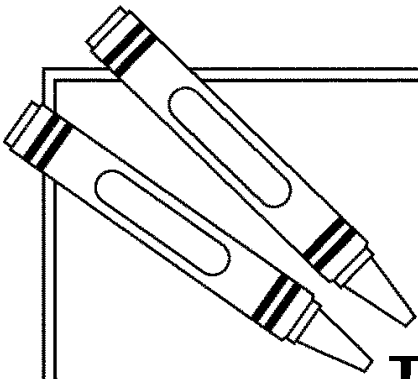
## June Bible Trivia Questions

Hint: All the answers can be found in the Bible readings appointed for worship in June.

1. What do James and John offer to do to the Samaritan village that didn't welcome them?
2. In the parable of the Good Samaritan where was the man who was attacked heading?
3. What does Martha, who was busy with housework, ask Jesus to tell her sister Mary?
4. Where does the Good Samaritan take the injured man, to what sort of place?

# June 2025

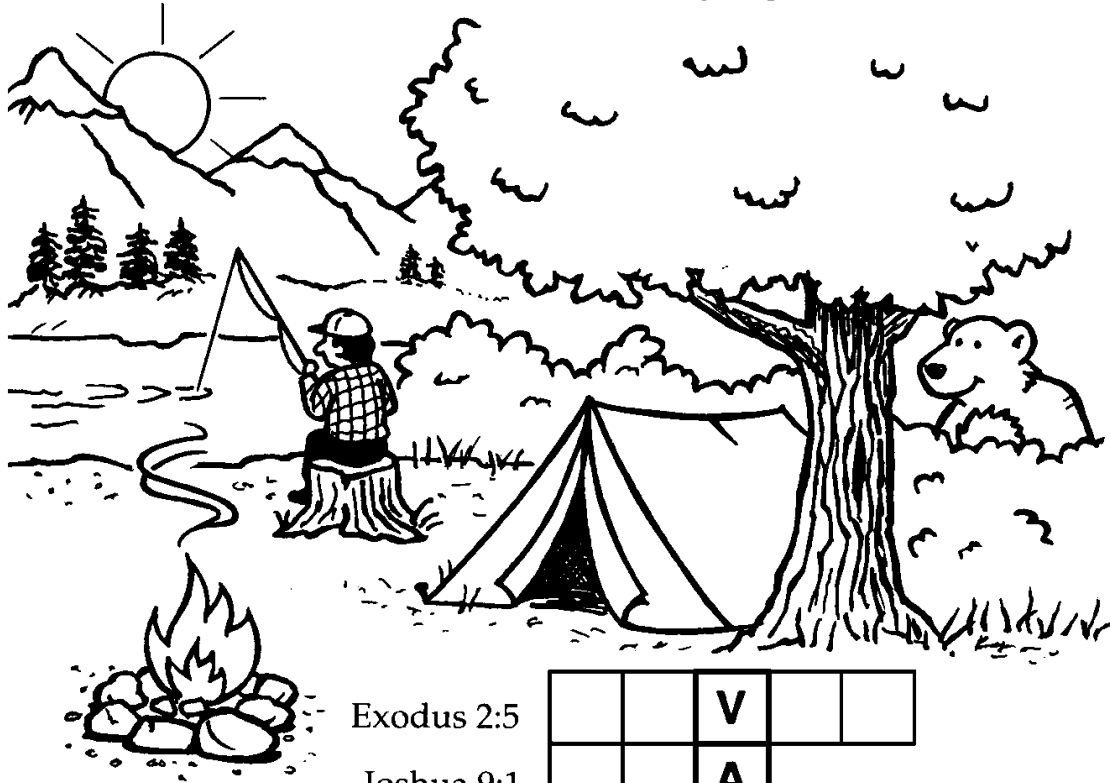
Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
<b>1</b> <u>7<sup>th</sup> Sunday of Easter</u> 8:30 Outdoor Service of the Word 10:30 Holy Communion	<b>2</b> Red Cross Blood Drive 8-3 Classical Conversations 3-7 Violin Lessons 7:00 Boy Scouts	<b>3</b> 1:00 Women's Bible Study 3-7 Violin Lessons	<b>4</b> 3-7 Violin Lessons 7:00 Alcoholics Anonymous	<b>5</b> 10:00-2:30 Monarch Homeschool	<b>6</b> 3-8 Cello Lessons	<b>7</b>
<b>8</b> <u>Pentecost</u> 8:30 Outdoor Holy Communion 10:30 Service of the Word	<b>9</b> 8-3 Classical Conversations 3-7 Violin Lessons 7:00 Boy Scouts	<b>10</b> 1:00 Women's Bible Study 3-7 Violin Lessons	<b>11</b> 3-7 Violin Lessons 7:00 Alcoholics Anonymous	<b>12</b> 10:00-2:30 Monarch Homeschool	<b>13</b> 3-8 Cello Lessons	<b>14</b> 1-4 Piano Recital
<b>15</b> <u>The Holy Trinity</u> 8:30 Outdoor Service of the Word 10:30 Holy Communion	<b>16</b> 3-7 Violin Lessons 6:00 Church Council 7:00 Boy Scouts	<b>17</b> 1:00 Women's Bible Study 3-7 Violin Lessons	<b>18</b> 3-7 Violin Lessons 7:00 Alcoholics Anonymous	<b>19</b>	<b>20</b> 3-8 Cello Lessons	<b>21</b>
<b>22</b> <u>2<sup>nd</sup> Sunday after Pentecost</u> 8:30 Outdoor Holy Communion 10:30 Service of the Word	<b>23</b> 3-7 Violin Lessons 7:00 Boy Scouts	<b>24</b> <u>John the Baptist</u> Polling Place – Primary Election 1:00 Women's Bible Study 3-7 Violin Lessons 7:00 Property Committee	<b>25</b> 8:30 Men's Breakfast 3-7 Violin Lessons 7:00 Alcoholics Anonymous	<b>26</b>	<b>27</b> 3-8 Cello Lessons	<b>28</b> Violin Recital
<b>29</b> <u>3<sup>rd</sup> Sunday after Pentecost</u> 8:30 Outdoor Service of the Word. 10:30 Service of the Word	<b>30</b> 3-7 Violin Lessons					



# Just for **KIDS**

## Time for Vacation

School is out; the weather is warm. It's time to plan a vacation!  
Look up the Bible verses below to find words to fit in the boxes.  
The words are places that you might go on vacation.



Exodus 2:5

		V		
--	--	---	--	--

Joshua 9:1

		A		
--	--	---	--	--

John 21:4

		C		
--	--	---	--	--

Exodus 33:7

		A		
--	--	---	--	--

Matthew 8:23

		T		
--	--	---	--	--

Isaiah 40:12

						I		
--	--	--	--	--	--	---	--	--

Jeremiah 21:14

					O			
--	--	--	--	--	---	--	--	--

Matthew 3:1

					N			
--	--	--	--	--	---	--	--	--



# **St. John's Lutheran Church**

## **Evangelical Lutheran Church in America**

God's work. Our hands.

*We are a community of faith  
committed to living and sharing the love of God.*

### **St. John's Lutheran Church**

888 County Rd. 9

Victor, NY 14564

The Reverend Jonathan Deibler, Pastor

(585) 924-5192

[www.stjohnsvictor.com](http://www.stjohnsvictor.com)

*Address Service Requested*

**June Newsletter**