

Ninth Sunday after Pentecost August 7, 2022 | 9:15 AM



Everyone is welcome. As people of God, St. John's welcomes all regardless of age, economic status, ethnic background, gender, physical or mental ability, race or sexual orientation. We affirm that in Christ "there is neither Jew nor Greek, there is neither slave nor free, there is neither male nor female." (Galatians 3:28) This is Christ's church, and Christ has bid you come.

**Guests are welcome.** We are pleased you are worshiping with us today. So that we may be in contact with you, we invite you to sign the guest book in the narthex. Our programs are open to all and you are invited to participate. We hope you will worship with us again soon.

**Children are welcome.** We encourage them to attend worship with their parents—even their noise and restlessness are surely a delight to God. Children's bulletins are available from the ushers and a professionally staffed nursery is available from 7:45 AM to 11:45 AM. Follow the signs or ask any member for directions.

**To assist you during worship**: Large print worship bulletins are available from the ushers. If you are unable to come forward for communion, please inform an usher and the pastors will be happy to commune you at your pew.

**Offerings**: St. John's is a tithing church. We dedicate a percentage of our offerings to the mission of the wider church through the NJ Synod of the ELCA and to many other mission partners. We are able to support these ministries because of your offerings and tithes.

**Assisted Listening:** To access assisted listening, Connect to the StJohnsALS WiFi network. Download the free WaveCast app to your phone. Tap ST\_JOHNS\_ALS to connect. Please use your own headphones to listen. Individual wired devices coming soon!





# Ministers: The People of Saint John's

## Clergy & Staff

The Rev. Blake A. Scalet, Pastor
Vicar Naeem Harry, Intern
Carolyn Rothman, Church Administrator
Jama Bowman, Communications Coordinator
Deacon Linda Walker, Minister of Children's Faith Formation
Harold Wyss, Weekday Sexton
Anne Ryan Dello Russo, Nursery

pastorbscalet@stjohnssummit.org vicar@stjohnssummit.org crothman@stjohnssummit.org jamabowman@stjohnssummit.org n wk154linda@gmail.com

We're delighted you're worshiping with us. As part of our ongoing outreach, your voice and your image may be videographed and photographed and used by St. John's for ministry purposes. For any questions or concerns, contact the church office.

## **Prayer Before Worship**

O God of promise, creator of the cosmos, you are the first light breaking through the void, and the final light we shall eternally enjoy. Keep our hearts ever vigilant as we wait to welcome you, that you would find us clothed in love, dressed for action, and eager to receive you. Amen.

From Feasting on the Word Worship Companion, Year C, Vol. 2

## Gathering

The Holy Spirit calls us together as the people of God.

ELW Evangelical Lutheran Worship: Red Book
ACS All Creation Sings: Purple Book

**PRELUDE** Setting of "Great Is Thy Faithfulness"

By John Carter

#### WELCOME

Please stand.

#### **CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS**

Blessed be the Holy Trinity, + one God, whose steadfast love endures forever. Amen.

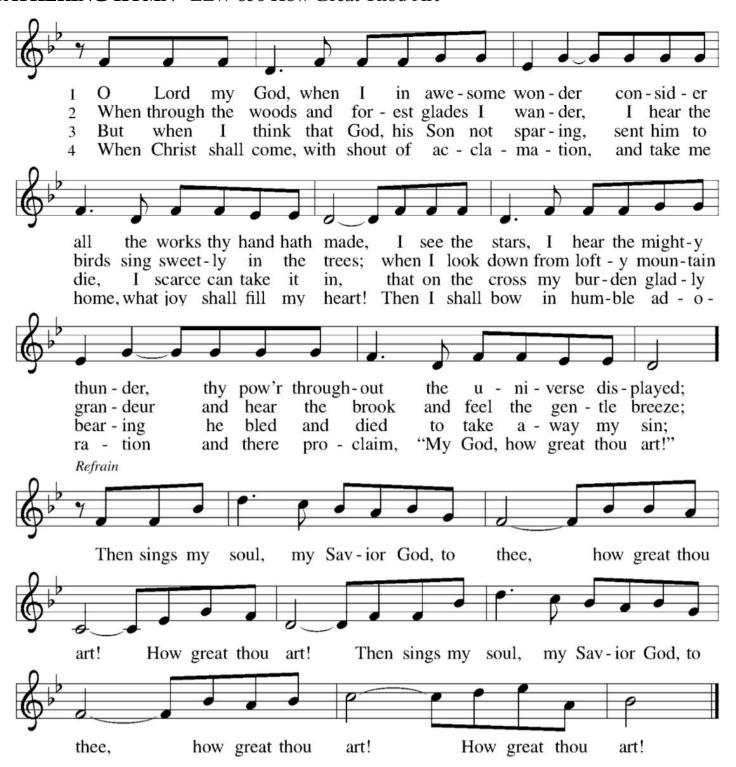
Almighty God, to whom all hearts are open, all desires known, and from whom no secrets are hid: cleanse the thoughts of our hearts by the inspiration of your Holy Spirit, that we may perfectly love you and worthily magnify your holy name, through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.** 

Let us confess our sin in the presence of God and of one another.

Most merciful God, we confess that we are captive to sin and cannot free ourselves. We have sinned against you in thought, word, and deed, by what we have done and by what we have left undone. We have not loved you with our whole heart; we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. For the sake of your Son, Jesus Christ, have mercy on us. Forgive us, renew us, and lead us, so that we may delight in your will and walk in your ways, to the glory of your holy name. Amen.

In the mercy of almighty God, Jesus Christ was given to die for us, and for his sake God forgives us all our sins. As a called and ordained minister of word and sacrament in the church of Christ, and by his authority, I therefore declare to you the entire forgiveness of all your sins, in the name of the Father, and of the + Son, and of the Holy Spirit. **Amen.** 

#### **GATHERING HYMN** ELW 856 How Great Thou Art



Text: Carl G. Boberg, 1859–1940; tr. and adapt. Stuart K. Hine, 1899–1989 Music: O STORE GUD, Swedish folk tune; adapt. Stuart K. Hine Text and music © 1953 S. K. Hine, assigned to Manna Music, Inc., 35255 Brooten Road, Pacific City OR 97135 (ASCAP). Renewed 1981. All rights reserved.

#### **APOSTOLIC GREETING**

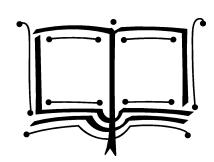
The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all. **And also with you.** 

#### **HYMN OF PRAISE**



#### PRAYER OF THE DAY

Let us pray. Almighty God, you sent your Holy Spirit to be the life and light of your church. Open our hearts to the riches of your grace, that we may be ready to receive you wherever you appear, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. **Amen.** 



### Word

God speaks to us in scripture reading, preaching and song.

Please be seated.

### FIRST READING Genesis 15:1–6

<sup>1</sup>After these things the word of the Lord came to Abram in a vision, "Do not be afraid, Abram, I am your shield; your reward shall be very great." <sup>2</sup>But Abram said, "O Lord God, what will you give me, for I continue childless, and the heir of my house is Eliezer of Damascus?" <sup>3</sup>And Abram said, "You have given me no offspring, and so a slave born in my house is to be my heir." <sup>4</sup>But the word of the Lord came to him, "This man shall not be your heir; no one but your very own issue shall be your heir." <sup>5</sup>He brought him outside and said, "Look toward heaven and count the stars, if you are able to count them." Then he said to him, "So shall your descendants be." <sup>6</sup>And he believed the Lord; and the Lord reckoned it to him as righteousness.

The reader concludes: The word of the Lord. The assembly responds: Thanks be to God.

### **PSALM 33:12-22**

## Spoken responsively

<sup>12</sup>Happy is the nation whose God is the LORD!

Happy the people chosen to be God's heritage!

<sup>13</sup>The LORD looks down from heaven, and sees all humankind.

<sup>14</sup>God sits firmly enthroned and watches all who dwell on the earth.

<sup>15</sup>God fashions all their hearts and observes all their deeds.

<sup>16</sup>A king is not saved by the size of the army, nor are warriors rescued by their great strength.

<sup>17</sup>The horse gives vain hope for victory; despite its great strength it cannot save.

<sup>18</sup>Truly, your eye is upon those who fear you, O LORD, upon those who wait for your steadfast love,

<sup>19</sup>to deliver their lives from death, and to keep them alive in time of famine.

<sup>20</sup>Our innermost being waits for you, O LORD, our helper and our shield.

<sup>21</sup>Surely, our heart rejoices in you, for in your holy name we put our trust.

<sup>22</sup>Let your lovingkindness, O LORD, be upon us, even as we place our hope in you.

## **SECOND READING** Hebrews 11:1–3, 8–16

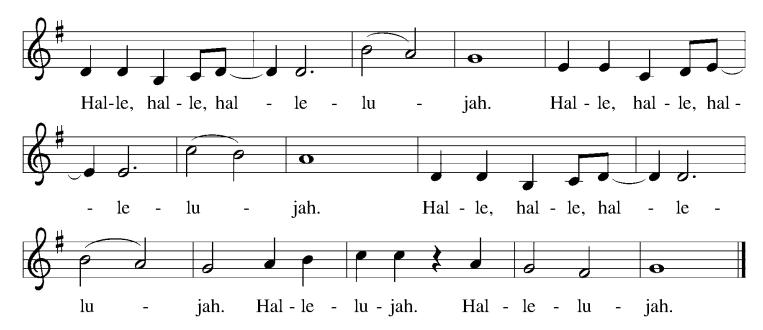
<sup>1</sup>Now faith is the assurance of things hoped for, the conviction of things not seen. <sup>2</sup>Indeed, by faith our ancestors received approval. <sup>3</sup>By faith we understand that the worlds were prepared by the word of God, so that what is seen was made from things that are not visible.

<sup>8</sup>By faith Abraham obeyed when he was called to set out for a place that he was to receive as an inheritance; and he set out, not knowing where he was going. <sup>9</sup>By faith he stayed for a time in the land he had been promised, as in a foreign land, living in tents, as did Isaac and Jacob, who were heirs with him of the same promise. <sup>10</sup>For he looked forward to the city that has foundations, whose architect and builder is God. <sup>11</sup>By faith he received power of procreation, even though he was too old—and Sarah herself was barren—because he considered him faithful who had promised. <sup>12</sup>Therefore from one person, and this one as good as dead, descendants were born, "as many as the stars of heaven and as the innumerable grains of sand by the seashore."

<sup>13</sup>All of these died in faith without having received the promises, but from a distance they saw and greeted them. They confessed that they were strangers and foreigners on the earth, <sup>14</sup>for people who speak in this way make it clear that they are seeking a homeland. <sup>15</sup>If they had been thinking of the land that they had left behind, they would have had opportunity to return. <sup>16</sup>But as it is, they desire a better country, that is, a heavenly one. Therefore God is not ashamed to be called their God; indeed, he has prepared a city for them.

The reader concludes: The word of the Lord. The assembly responds: Thanks be to God.

### **GOSPEL ACCLAMATION**



### **GOSPEL** Luke 12:32–40

The Holy Gospel according to Luke. Glory to you, O Lord.

[Jesus said:] <sup>32</sup>"Do not be afraid, little flock, for it is your Father's good pleasure to give you the kingdom. <sup>33</sup>Sell your possessions, and give alms. Make purses for yourselves that do not wear out, an unfailing treasure in heaven, where no thief comes near and no moth destroys. <sup>34</sup>For where your treasure is, there your heart will be also.

<sup>35</sup>"Be dressed for action and have your lamps lit; <sup>36</sup>be like those who are waiting for their master to return from the wedding banquet, so that they may open the door for him as soon as he comes and knocks. <sup>37</sup>Blessed are those slaves whom the master finds alert when he comes; truly I tell you, he will fasten his belt and have them sit down to eat, and he will come and serve them. <sup>38</sup>If he comes during the middle of the night, or near dawn, and finds them so, blessed are those slaves.

<sup>39</sup>"But know this: if the owner of the house had known at what hour the thief was coming, he would not have let his house be broken into. <sup>40</sup>You also must be ready, for the Son of Man is coming at an unexpected hour."

The Gospel of the Lord. Praise to you, O Christ.

Please be seated.

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

**SERMON** The Rev. Blake A. Scalet

## **HYMN OF THE DAY** ACS 1004 Faith Begins by Letting Go



Text: Carl P. Daw Jr., b. 1944

Music: RATISBON, J. G. Werner, Choralbuch, 1815

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## Sacrament of Holy Baptism

God brings those who are baptized out of death and into life.

#### **PRESENTATION**

God, who is rich in mercy and love, gives us a new birth into a living hope through the sacrament of baptism. By water and the Word God delivers us from sin and death and raises us to new life in Jesus Christ. We are united with all the baptized in the one body of Christ, anointed with the gift of the Holy Spirit, and joined in God's mission for the life of the world.

Sponsors: We present Zoey Elisabette Kling for baptism.

Called by the Holy Spirit, trusting in the grace and love of God, do you desire to have Zoey baptized into Christ? *Parents*: I do.

As you bring your child to receive the gift of baptism, you are entrusted with responsibilities: to live with her among God's faithful people, bring her to the word of God and the holy supper, teach her the Lord's Prayer, the Creed, and the Ten Commandments, place in her hands the holy scriptures, and nurture her in faith and prayer, so that your child may learn to trust God, proclaim Christ through word and deed, care for others and the world God made, and work for justice and peace. Do you promise to help Zoey grow in the Christian faith and life? *Parents*: I do.

Sponsors, do you promise to nurture Zoey in the Christian faith as you are empowered by God's Spirit, and to help her live in the covenant of baptism and in communion with the church? *Sponsors*: I do.

People of God, do you promise to support Zoey and pray for her in her new life in Christ? **We do.** 

#### **PROFESSION OF FAITH**

I ask you to profess your faith in Christ Jesus, reject sin, and confess the faith of the church.

Do you renounce the devil and all the forces that defy God? I renounce them.

Do you renounce the powers of this world that rebel against God? I renounce them.

Do you renounce the ways of sin that draw you from God? I renounce them.

Do you believe in God the Father?

I believe in God, the Father almighty, creator of heaven and earth.

Do you believe in Jesus Christ, the Son of God?

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. Do you believe in God the Holy Spirit?

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.

#### THANKSGIVING AT THE FONT

The Lord be with you. And also with you.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God. It is right to give our thanks and praise.

We give you thanks, O God, for in the beginning your Spirit moved over the waters and by your Word you created the world, calling forth life in which you took delight. Through the waters of the flood you delivered Noah and his family, and through the sea you led your people Israel from slavery into freedom. At the river your Son was baptized by John and anointed with the Holy Spirit. By the baptism of Jesus' death and resurrection you set us free from the power of sin and death and raise us up to live in you. Pour out your Holy Spirit, the power of your living Word, that those who are washed in the waters of baptism may be given new life. To you be given honor and praise through Jesus Christ our Lord, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, now and forever. Amen.

#### **BAPTISM**

Zoey, I baptize you in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit. Amen.

Let us pray. We give you thanks, O God, that through water and the Holy Spirit you give your daughters and sons new birth, cleanse them from sin, and raise them to eternal life. Sustain Zoey with the gift of your Holy Spirit: the spirit of wisdom and understanding, the spirit of counsel and might, the spirit of knowledge and the fear of the Lord, the spirit of joy in your presence, both now and forever. **Amen.** 

Zoey, child of God, you have been sealed by the Holy Spirit and marked with the cross of Christ forever. **Amen.** 

#### WELCOME

Congregation President: Let your light so shine before others that they may see your good works and glorify your Father in heaven. Let us welcome the newly baptized.

We welcome you into the body of Christ and into the mission we share: join us in giving thanks and praise to God and bearing God's creative and redeeming word to all the world.

#### PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

God of mercy, Hear our prayer.

#### **PEACE**

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

Please be seated.

#### PARISH ANNOUNCEMENTS FOR MISSION

#### GATHERING OF TITHES AND OFFERINGS

We present monetary, food, and other offerings for God's mission through this congregation. Both visitors and members alike may use the pew envelope to make a contribution. A collection plate can be found at the entrance of the sanctuary. If you would like to make a one-time or recurring electronic contribution, you may visit www.stjohnssummit.org or scan this code.

#### OFFERTORY PRAYER

Let us pray. Gracious God, you bless us with gifts of guidance, new life, growth in grace, and fruitful labor. Accept the first fruits of time and toil, field and orchard we offer here. Bless and multiply these gifts to our nurture and the care of your creation; for the sake of your Son, our Savior Jesus Christ. Amen.

#### Mea1

God feeds us with the presence of Jesus Christ.

#### GREAT THANKSGIVING

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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.

It is indeed right, our duty and our joy . . . we praise your name and join their unending hymn:



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#### **EUCHARISTIC PRAYER**

#### LORD'S PRAYER

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

Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your name, your kingdom come, your will be done, on earth as in heaven. Give us today our daily bread. Forgive us our sins as we forgive those who sin against us. Save us from the time of trial and deliver us from evil. For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours, now and forever. Amen.

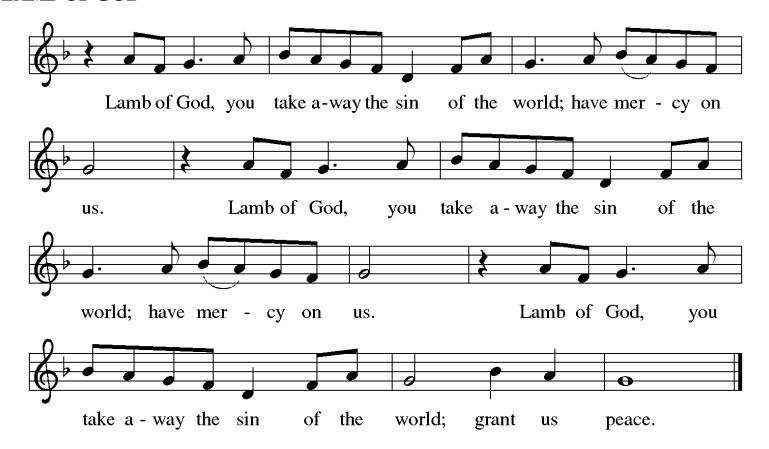
Please be seated.

## RECEPTION OF COMMUNON

If you wish to receive communion, please approach the pastor one at a time. The pastor will place a wafer in your open hands. Please indicate if you need a gluten free wafer. The vicar serves the wine from the chalice—either by intinction or drinking from the common cup. The assisting minister serves the wine/grape juice in pre-filled individual cups.

All baptized Christians are welcome at the Lord's table. If you do not wish to commune, you may come forward for a blessing.

#### LAMB OF GOD



## **COMMUNION HYMN** ELW 488 Soul, Adorn Yourself with Gladness



- 1 Soul, a dorn your self with glad ness, leave the gloom y
- bride to meet him. Has - ten as a ea ly and ger Now in faith I hum - bly pon - der this 0 sur ver
- 4 Je sus, source of last ing plea sure, tru est friend, and



haunts of sad - ness, come to the day - light's splen - dor, in stands glad - ly greet him. There al - read - v knock - ing: he that the life bound - less pass - ing won - der bread of is all dear - est trea - sure, be - yond un - der stand - ing. peace



Bless there with joy your prais - es ren - der. the one whose grace un quick - ly, now, your gate un-lock - ing, pen wide the fast-closed 0 though the souls it feeds are count - less; with the choic - est wine of all life ex-pand - ing: hum - bly now, bow iov in - to be -



a - maz - ing ban - quet found - ed; bound-ed this Christ, though heav'n - ly, the Lord im - mor - tal: "Come, por - tal, say - ing to and leave your heav - en Christ's own blood to us glo - rious is giv - en. Oh. most fore you, love a - dore you; in - car - nate, I wor - thi - ly



high, and ho deigns dwell with vou most low - lv. ly, to loved one nev dwell with - in heart for - ev - er." er: my con - so - la pledge and of sal - va - tion. tion, seal my and, fa - vored, nev - er me re - ceive you, SO leave you.

Text: Johann Franck, 1618–1677; tr. *Lutheran Book of Worship* Music: SCHMÜCKE DICH, Johann Crüger, 1598–1662

Text © 1978 Lutheran Book of Worship, admin. Augsburg Fortress

## **COMMUNION HYMN** ELW 451 We Are Baptized in Christ Jesus



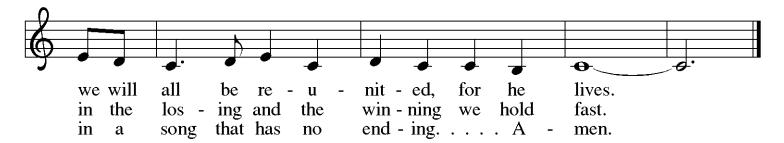
- 1 We are bap-tized in Christ Je sus, we are bap-tized in his death;
- 2 In the wa-ter and the wit-ness, in the break-ing of the bread,
- 3 Glo-ry be to God the Fa-ther, glo-ry be to Christ the Son,



that as Christ is raised vic - to - rious, we might live a brand new life. in the wait - ing arms of Je - sus who is ris - en from the dead, glo - ry to the Ho - ly Spir - it, ev - er three and ev - er one;



And if we have been u - nit - ed in a dread-ful death like his, God has made a new be - gin-ning from the ash - es of our past; as it was in the be - gin-ning, glo-ry now re-sounds a - gain



Text: John C. Ylvisaker, b. 1937 Music: OUIMETTE, John C. Ylvisaker Text and music © 1985 John C. Ylvisaker Please stand.

#### **BLESSING**

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

#### **POST COMMUNION CANTICLE**

Now, Lord, you let your servant go in peace: your word has been fulfilled. My own eyes have seen the salvation which you have prepared in the sight of every people: a light to reveal you to the nations and the glory of your people Israel. Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit as it was in the beginning, is now, and will be forever. Amen.

#### **VERSICLE**

O give thanks unto the Lord, for the Lord is good.

God's mercy endures forever.

### PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

Let us pray. We give you thanks, almighty God, that you have refreshed us through the healing power of this gift of life. In your mercy, strengthen us through this gift, in faith toward you and in fervent love toward one another; for the sake of Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

## Sending

God blesses us and sends us in mission to the world.

#### BLESSING OF COLLEGE STUDENTS

#### **BLESSING**

The God of peace, Father, + Son, and Holy Spirit, bless you, comfort you, and show you the path of life this day and always. **Amen.** 

## **SENDING HYMN** ELW 733 Great Is Thy Faithfulness



Text: Thomas O. Chisholm, 1866–1960 Music: FAITHFULNESS, William M. Runyan, 1870–1957 Text and music © 1923, ren. 1951 Hope Publishing Company, Carol Stream, IL 60188. All rights reserved. Used by permission.

#### DISMISSAL

Go in peace. Serve the Lord. Thanks be to God.

**POSTLUDE** Setting of Agincourt Hymn

### August 7, 2022

**Today's altar flowers** are given to the glory of God and in loving memory of their parents by the Peterson family.

We welcome Diane Pivarnik as our guest musician today.

**Reconciling in Christ:** The Social Justice Social Ministry (SJSM) Committee is proposing that St. John's becomes a "Reconciling in Christ" church. For nearly 50 years, ReconcilingWorks: Lutherans for Full Participation has advocated for the full welcome, inclusion, and equity of LGBTQIA+ Lutherans in the life of their Church, congregation, and community. Over the next several months, our congregation will offer several educational opportunities. Their goal is to present a motion at the February congregational meeting to adopt a welcome statement and officially become an RIC church. More details to come!

**Many library books** are overdue or missing from our church library. Please check your shelves and return the books to the library or the church office. Thank you.

Blessing of College Students in worship on TODAY and August 14 at the 9:15 AM service.

**Monday Movie Nights**: The SJSM committee will hold two evening movie nights this summer, in Hinman Hall to watch LGBTQIA+ themed movies. Our next movie will be on **Monday**, **August 15 at 7:00 PM** to watch *Pride* (2014). Popcorn and post-movie discussion included!

**LSMNJ School Supplies due August 16**: Purchase school supplies for students in the LSMNJ's affordable housing program at Amazon and **have them delivered to the LSMNJ Burlington office by Monday, August 16**, 3 Manhattan Drive, Burlington, NJ 08016, M–F only. Contact Helen Dachowicz at <u>dackpack@aol.com</u> with questions. Shopping lists are in the narthex.

Anti-Racism Committee Summer reading books available with discussions after Labor Day. Small Great Things, recommended donation \$10. Sum of Us: What Racism Costs Everyone and How We Can Prosper Together recommended donation \$15. Books available in the church office.

**The Hinman Scholarship Fund** applications are now being accepted. Applications can be found in the church office. Contact Linda Mesenbrink with questions.

**Congregational Retreat**—**September 30–October 2:** Join us for a fun weekend at Cross Roads for activities for all ages, faith formation, building connections with other church members, or simply to connect with nature. We have reserved the entire Christ Center, a modern hotel-like retreat space with private bathrooms. Speak to Pastor Scalet or Jane Bowman with questions.

**Lutheran Disaster Response** for those affected by the crisis in Ukraine with immediate financial support (100% of all donations are given). You can mail or drop off a check at the church office, or donate online and type "Ukraine" under the "Special Giving" field or in the memo line.

