

*St. John*  
Lutheran Church



***Thanksgiving Eve***

*Wednesday, November 23, 2022*

*7pm*

NOW

**Tonight is Pie Night!!** Stay for Pie Night after worship!

Thank you to everyone for donating pies and to our 7th - 9th grade Confirmation families for serving & cleaning up.

**Angel Tree Gifts Due back by Next Sunday 12/4**

Bring your unwrapped gift and tag to the church office during office hours, Saturday, December 3rd from 5-7pm or Sunday, December 4th, 8am-Noon.

**Norman Rockwell Calendars** Available in Narthex. Free!

**Sign Up at [stjohnjoliet.org](http://stjohnjoliet.org):**

**11/27 Church Decorating Event, Noon** On Sunday we're decorating the church for Christmas ~ sign up to join us! *Adults only, please.*

**12/4 Cocoa & Carols: Treats & Volunteers** Bring cookies, brownies or treats for Cocoa & Carols night a week from Sunday, or volunteer to serve. Sign up today.

**12/24 Christmas Poinsettia Plants** Remember your loved ones with a poinsettia plant for Christmas. Plants cost \$15. Dedication choices: *In Honor of, In Memory of, and In Thanksgiving for.* Sign up by 12/19 to have dedications included in Christmas bulletins.

HAPPY  
Thanksgiving

Tomorrow  
Friday  
Saturday

**Holiday Closings**

Closed: 11/24-25 - Church Office, 11/26 - Food Pantry

This  
Sunday  
11/27

**Church Decorating Event, Noon**

*Many hands make for light work! Sign up ~ Adults only, please.*

**Sunday School** PJ Movie Day! Meet at classrooms, not Sanctuary.

This  
Tuesday  
11/29

**Giving Tuesday**

Kindly recommend St. John Lutheran Church Food Pantry as a Giving Tuesday recipient at your work. See Pastor Robin for more information.

Next  
Sunday  
12/4

**Sunday School Christmas Program\* and  
Light Up the Night\***

4pm Sunday School Christmas Program

4:30pm Light Up the Night: Cocoa & Carols in the parking lot

5pm Light Up the Night: Tree Lighting in the parking lot

*We welcome you to St. John Lutheran Church as we gather for this time of worship and reflection on God's love for the world.*

## **Worship Leaders – Wednesday, November 23, 2022 (7:00 pm)**

<b>Deacon</b>	Glenn Smith
<b>Communion Assistant</b>	Lynne Smith
<b>Greeter</b>	Erik & Katie Hoffman
<b>Acolytes</b>	Sophia Hudecek, William Hudecek
<b>Ushers</b>	Jon Blomquist, Bob Makowka, Mike Smith
<b>Organ</b>	Janet Blomquist
<b>Accompanist</b>	Susan Fick
<b>Music Director</b>	Tori Hicks
<b>Handbell Director</b>	Sarah Wernli
<b>Audio Board</b>	Bill Bromer, Bill Jensen
<b>Livestream Team</b>	Dawn MacGregor, Matt Markwell
<b>Counters</b>	Nancy Kautz, Sharon Sullivan
<b>Altar Guild</b>	Karen Becker, Jan Drish, Monica Engel Cheryl Lovell

## **Contact Information**

Pastor Robin Caldwell	robincaldwell@stjohnjoliet.org	630-408-1402
Pastor Evan Mayhew	evanmayhew@stjohnjoliet.org	262-366-3132
Tori Hicks	torihicks@stjohnjoliet.org	815-355-3205
Dawn MacGregor	dawnmacgregor@stjohnjoliet.org	815-557-9702
Nicole Adams	nicoleadams@stjohnjoliet.org	815-439-2320
Pam Kornaus	pamkornaus@stjohnjoliet.org	815-439-2320
David Luecht, Council President	council@stjohnjoliet.org	815-954-9368

**St. John Lutheran Church**  
2650 Plainfield Road, Joliet, IL 60435  
815-439-2320 [info@stjohnjoliet.org](mailto:info@stjohnjoliet.org) [stjohnjoliet.org](http://stjohnjoliet.org)

 **St. John by the Mall – Joliet, IL**

 **St. John Lutheran Church, Joliet**

*\*Indicates Congregation, Please Stand*

**Prelude**

“Come, Thou Almighty King”

Stellhorn

## **Welcome and Announcements**

### **\*Call to Worship**

**P** We are gathered today in the name of the Father, Son, and † Holy Spirit.  
**C** Amen.

### **\*Opening Hymn**

**# 693 Vs. 1 & 4**

#### **“Come, Ye Thankful People, Come”**

Text by: Henry Alford. Music by: George J. Elvey, Public Domain.  
Reprinted & streamed with permission under OneLicense #A-712815. All Rights Reserved.

**Verse 1** Come, ye thankful people come; raise the song of harvest home.  
All be safely gathered in ere the winter storms begin.  
God, our maker, doth provide for our wants to be supplied.  
Come to God’s own temple, come, raise the song of harvest home.

**Verse 4** Even so, Lord, quickly come to thy final harvest home.  
Gather then thy people in, free from sorrow, free from sin,  
There, forever purified, in thy garner to abide.  
Come, with all thine angels, come, raise the glorious harvest home!

### **\*Prayer of the Day**

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

**P** Let us pray. Almighty God, your generous goodness comes to us new every day. By the work of your Spirit lead us to acknowledge your goodness, give thanks for your benefits, and serve you in willing obedience, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.  
**C** **Amen.**

## Psalm 126

D A responsive reading from Psalm 126. Listen for the Word of the Lord.

C **Our ears are open.**

When the Lord restored the fortunes of Zion,  
we were like those who dream.

**Then our mouth was filled with laughter,  
and our tongue with shouts of joy;  
then it was said among the nations,  
“The Lord has done great things for them.”**

The Lord has done great things for us,  
and we rejoiced.

**Restore our fortunes, O Lord,  
like the watercourses in the Negeb.**

May those who sow in tears  
reap with shouts of joy.

**Those who go out weeping,  
bearing the seed for sowing,  
shall come home with shouts of joy,  
carrying their sheaves.**

D Word of God, Word of Life!

C **Thanks be to God!**

## Anthem

“Holy Manna”  
*St. John Handbell Ensemble*

Moore, arr. Thompson

## Reading

**Joel 2:21-27**

D A reading from the book of Joel, the second chapter.  
Listen for the Word of the Lord.

C **Our ears are open.**

Do not fear, O soil;  
be glad and rejoice,  
for the Lord has done great things!  
Do not fear, you animals of the field,  
for the pastures of the wilderness are green;  
the tree bears its fruit,  
the fig tree and vine give their full yield.  
O children of Zion, be glad  
and rejoice in the Lord your God;  
for he has given the early rain for your vindication,  
he has poured down for you abundant rain,  
the early and the later rain, as before.

The threshing floors shall be full of grain,  
the vats shall overflow with wine and oil.  
I will repay you for the years  
that the swarming locust has eaten,  
the hopper, the destroyer, and the cutter,  
my great army, which I sent against you.  
You shall eat in plenty and be satisfied,  
and praise the name of the Lord your God,  
who has dealt wondrously with you.  
And my people shall never again be put to shame.  
You shall know that I am in the midst of Israel,  
and that I, the Lord, am your God and there is no other.  
And my people shall never again be put to shame.

D Word of God, Word of Life!  
C **Thanks be to God!**

**\*Gospel Acclamation**

S 151a

Al - le - lu - ia. Lord, to whom shall we go?

You have the words of e - ter - nal life. Al - le - lu - ia.

**\*Gospel**

**Matthew 6:25-34**

P The Holy Gospel according to Matthew, the sixth chapter.  
C **Glory to you, O Lord.**

“Therefore, I tell you, do not worry about your life, what you will eat or drink, or about your body, what you will wear. Isn’t there more to life than food and more to the body than clothing? Look at the birds in the sky: They do not sow, or reap, or gather into barns, yet your heavenly Father feeds them. Aren’t you more valuable than they are? And which of you by worrying can add even one hour to his life? Why do you worry about clothing? Think about how the flowers of the field grow; they do not work or spin. Yet I tell you that not even Solomon in all his glory was clothed like one of these! And if this is how God clothes the wild grass, which is here today and tomorrow is tossed into the fire to heat the oven, won’t

he clothe you even more, you people of little faith? So then, don't worry saying, 'What will we eat?' or 'What will we drink?' or 'What will we wear?' For the unconverted pursue these things, and your heavenly Father knows that you need them. But above all pursue his kingdom and righteousness, and all these things will be given to you as well. So then, do not worry about tomorrow, for tomorrow will worry about itself. Today has enough trouble of its own.

**P** The gospel of our Lord.  
**C** **Praise to you O Christ.**

## Sermon

**Pastor Evan Mayhew**

## Hymn of the Day

**# 840 Vs. 1-3**

### **“Now Thank We All Our God”**

Text by: Martin Rinkhart, Catherine Weinkworth. Music by: Johann Cruger. Public Domain.  
Reprinted & streamed with permission under OneLicense #A-712815. All Rights Reserved.

**Verse 1** Now thank we all our God with hearts and hands and voices,  
Who wondrous things has done, in whom this world rejoices;  
Who, from our mothers' arms, has blest us on our way  
With countless gifts of love, and still is ours today.

**Verse 2** Oh, may this bounteous God through all our life be near us,  
With ever joyful hearts and blessed peace to cheer us,  
And keep us all in grace, and guide us when perplexed,  
And free us from all harm in this world and the next.

**Verse 3** All praise and thanks to God the Father now be given,  
The Son, and Spirit blest, who reign in highest heaven,  
The one eternal God, whom earth and heav'n adore;  
For thus it was, is now, and shall be evermore.

## The Prayers

St. Paul writes:

Do not worry about anything, but in everything by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be made known to God. God welcomes our prayers. We bring what is needed to God, trusting we are heard.

## First Petition

**P** Lord, in your mercy,  
**C** **hear our prayer.**

## Anthem

**“For the Autumn Sky”**  
*St. John Chorale*

Schram

## Second Petition

P Lord, in your mercy,  
C hear our prayer.

## Hymn

# 679 Vs. 1 & 3

### “For the Fruit of All Creation”

Text by: Fred Pratt Green. Music by: Welsh Traditional; arr. Ralph Vaughan Williams. Text © 1970 Hope Publishing Company. Arr. © Oxford University Press. Reprinted & streamed with permission under OneLicense #A-712815. All Rights Reserved.

**Verse 1** For the fruit of all creation, thanks be to God.  
For these gifts to ev’ry nation, thanks be to God.  
For the plowing, sowing, reaping, silent growth while we are sleeping,  
Future needs in earth’s safekeeping, thanks be to God.

**Verse 3** For the harvests of the Spirit, thanks be to God.  
For the good we all inherit, thanks be to God.  
For the wonders that astound us, for the truths that still confound us,  
Most of all, that love has found us, thanks be to God.

## Third Petition

P Lord, in your mercy,  
C hear our prayer.

## Special Music

“I Am Thankful”  
Praise Team

Baloche

## Fourth Petition

P Lord, in your mercy,  
C hear our prayer.

## Hymn

# 689, Vs. 1-2

### “Praise and Thanksgiving”

Text by: Albert F. Bayly. Music by: Gaelic tune; arr. Hymnal version. Text © Oxford University Press. Arr. © 2006 Augsburg Fortress. Reprinted & streamed with permission under OneLicense #A-712815. All Rights Reserved.

**Verse 1** Praise and thanksgiving, God, we would offer  
For all things living, you have made good:  
Harvest of sown fields, fruits of the orchard,  
Hay from the mown fields, blossom and wood.

**Verse 2** God, bless the labor we bring to serve you,  
That with our neighbor we may be fed.  
Sowing or tilling, we would work with you,  
Harvesting, milling for daily bread.



## **Fifth Petition**

P Lord, in your mercy,  
C **hear our prayer.**

*The prayers conclude:*

P Receive these prayers, O God, and those in our hearts known only to you.  
C **Amen.**

## **\*Sharing the Peace**

P The peace of the Lord be with you always.  
C **And also with you.**

*You may share the peace of Christ with others.  
Those who choose to stay in their pew may wave or give signs of peace.*

## **Offertory**

“For the Beauty of the Earth”

Kocher

*All that we are and all that we have are gifts from God. In response to God’s generosity, we offer these gifts to our neighbors and the world through our time, possessions, and money.*

*The Offertory is an invitation to be a part of the mission, ministry, and outreach of Christ through St. John Lutheran Church. Together, there is enough for everyone.*

*Please place any financial gifts, attendance sheets, and prayer concerns in the offering plate when it comes to you and pass it on to the person next to you or behind you with the assistance of the usher. Thank you for your generosity!*

## \*Offertory Response

### “Come, Thank the Lord”

Words and Music by: Peter Holmer, 1980. Permission given as a gift to St John Lutheran Church, Joliet, by the composer.

Come, thank the Lord for He's the total giver.  
He's the one who truly does deliver.  
Come thank the Lord He's the one who does it all. (Praise the Lord!)  
Sun, moon, and rain, trees and flowers are the gifts He gives.  
The Lord does provide all we need to live.  
Thanks, praise and love now we offer to the Lord our King.  
He's the guider, provider, the giver of everything.  
Sing Amen! Say it again. Sing Amen!

## \*Offertory Prayer

D Let us pray. Gracious God, **in your great love you richly provide for our needs. Make of these gifts a banquet of blessing and make us ready to share with all in need; through Jesus Christ, who sets a table for all. Amen.**

## \*Great Thanksgiving *(spoken)*

P The Lord be with you.

C **And also with you.**

P Lift up your hearts.

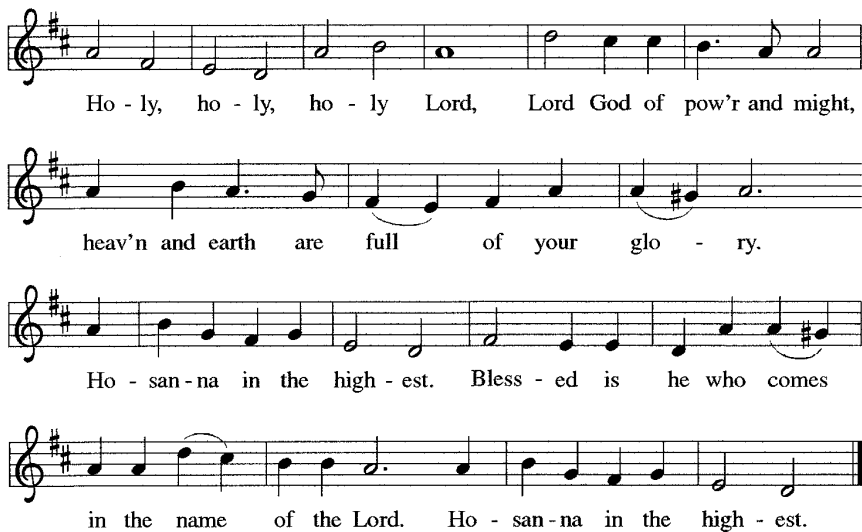
C **We lift them to the Lord.**

P Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

C **It is right to give our thanks and praise.**

P 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, creator of heaven and earth. By your appointment the seasons come and go. You bring forth bread from the earth and create the fruit of the vine. You formed us in your image and made us stewards of your world. Earth has yielded its treasure, and from your hand we have received blessing on blessing. And so, with your people on earth and all the company of heaven, we praise your name and join their unending hymn:

## \*Holy



Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, Lord God of pow'r and might,  
heav'n and earth are full of your glo - ry.  
Ho - san - na in the high - est. Bless - ed is he who comes  
in the name of the Lord. Ho - san - na in the high - est.

## \*Words of Institution

### \*The Lord's Prayer

**C** 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.

### \*Invitation to Communion

**P** These are the gifts of God, for the people of God!  
**C** Thanks be to God!

## Distribution

*We believe in the true presence of Jesus Christ in this meal and at this table.*

***All are welcome to receive communion or a blessing.***

*There are two ways to receive communion today:*

### **Receiving Communion in your pew**

*You may receive communion in your pew with the elements contained in the communion pod. The pastor will say the words of distribution after the Invitation to Communion:*

The body of Christ, given for you.

The blood of Christ, shed for you.

### **Receiving Communion at the altar**

- *You will be invited forward by the usher.*
- *Gluten free wafers are available upon request. Inform the pastor when receiving communion.*
- *Red wine is on the outer rings of the tray; white grape juice is on the inner rings of the tray.*
- *After receiving communion, place the used communion cup in the basket that the acolyte brings to you and return to your pew via the side aisle.*

## 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.

# Communion Music

## “Give Thanks”

Words and Music by: Henry Smith. © 1978 Integrity's Hosanna! Music.  
Reprinted under CCLI License #2793209 and streamed under CCLI License #20285260 with permission. All Rights Reserved.

**Verse** Give thanks with a grateful heart,  
Give thanks to the Holy One;  
Give thanks because he's given Jesus Christ His Son.

**Chorus** And now let the weak say, “I am strong!”  
Let the poor say, “I am rich because of what the Lord  
has done for us!” **Repeat Chorus**

Give thanks, give thanks.

# 474, Vs. 1 & 5

## “Bread of Life from Heaven”

Text by: Susan R. Briehl. Music by: Argentine traditional, refrain; Marty Haugen, b. 1950, stanzas. Text and Music © 2001 GIA Publications.  
Reprinted & streamed with permission under OneLicense #A-712815. All Rights Reserved.

**Refrain** Bread of life from heaven,  
Your blood and body given,  
We eat this bread and drink this cup  
Until you come again.

**Verse 1** Break now the bread of Christ's sacrifice;  
Giving thanks, hungry ones, gather round.  
Eat, all of you, and be satisfied;  
In Christ's presence the loaves will abound. **Refrain**

**Verse 5** Drink of this cup and declare his death;  
Eat this bread and believe Easter morn;  
Trust his return and, with ev'ry breath,  
Praise the one in whom you are reborn. **Refrain**

**“Come, Thou Fount of Every Blessing”**

Text by: Robert Robinson, alt. Music by: J. Wyeth, *Repository of Sacred Music*, Part 11. Public Domain.  
Reprinted & streamed with permission under OneLicense #A-712815. All Rights Reserved.

**Verse 1** Come, thou Fount of ev'ry blessing, tune my heart to sing thy grace;  
Streams of mercy, never ceasing, call for songs of loudest praise.  
While the hope of endless glory fills my heart with joy and love,  
Teach me ever to adore thee; may I still thy goodness prove.

**Verse 2** Here I raise my Ebenezer: “Hither by thy help I’ve come”;  
And I hope, by thy good pleasure, safely to arrive at home.  
Jesus sought me when a stranger, wand’ring from the fold of God;  
He, to rescue me from danger, interposed his precious blood.

**\*Blessing**

**C** Amen.

**\*Prayer after Communion**

**D** Let us pray. O God, in this holy communion you have welcomed us into your presence, nourished us with words of mercy, and fed us at your table. Amid the cares of this life, strengthen us to love you with all our heart, serve others with a willing spirit, and honor the earth you have made; through Christ our Lord.

**C** Amen.

**\*Benediction**

**C** *Sing* AMEN. AMEN. AMEN.

## \*Sending Song

# 873, Vs. 1

### “Rejoice, Ye Pure in Heart!”

Text by: Edward h. Plumptre, alt. Music by: Arthur H. Messiter, Public Domain.  
Reprinted & streamed with permission under OneLicense #A-712815. All Rights Reserved.

#### **Verse 1**

Rejoice, ye pure in heart!  
Rejoice, give thanks, and sing;  
Your festal banner wave on high,  
The cross of Christ your king.

#### **Refrain**

Rejoice! Rejoice!  
Rejoice, give thanks, and sing!

## \*Sending

D Go in peace. Serve the Lord!  
C **Thanks be to God!**

## Postlude

“Now Thank We All Our God”

Kaufmann

All St. John Lutheran Church services may contain liturgy and songs with permission from the following: Sundays and Seasons.com. Copyright 2021 Augsburg Fortress. All rights reserved. Reprinted by permission under Augsburg Fortress Liturgies Annual License #SAS006677. New Revised Standard Version Bible, copyright 1989, Division of Christian Education of the National Council of the Churches of Christ in the United States of America. Used by permission. All rights reserved. Copyright © 2021 Clergy Stuff™, published by Clergy Stuff, 8621 Poplar Bridge Curve, Bloomington, MN 55437. Gospel Verse, Holy, and Amen from *Now the Feast and Celebration*. Text & Tune by: Marty Haugen. © 1990 GIA Publications. Reprinted & streamed with permission under OneLicense #A-712815. All Rights Reserved. Variations of words and prayer Copyright © 2022, Teri Peterson.



## **The Sanctified Art From Generation to Generation... devotional**

*This Advent devotional is unique because it offers readers many ways to connect with their faith during the Advent season. In addition to Bible verses and reflections, there is beautiful art, recipes, poetry, and music verses. Get a hard copy in the Narthex, or click the link in your weekly email for a digital version.*

---

This **Advent I: Listen, God is Faithful**  
Saturday Join us for worship to officially start the Christmas season!  
& Sunday **Sunday School** - Wear your PJ's for Movie Day, meet in your classroom.

A Week **Advent Evening Prayer, 7pm\***  
from Spend some time in our Sanctuary space as pastors lead prayer time  
Today designed to help you recenter, refocus, and relax. December 1st, 8th, 15th.

DEC **Christmas Cantata, 8:30am\* & 11am**  
18 Enjoy *Little Lamb, Little Lion*, a cantata directed by Tori Hicks.  
Sun Features St. John Chorale, Praise Team, and Youth Choir.  
**Longest Night, 7pm\***

Pastors offer you healing words of comfort when "the most wonderful time of the year" isn't quite so wonderful.

DEC **Christmas Eve Worship, 3pm\*, 5pm\* 11pm\***  
24 Celebrate the birth of the Christ child with St. John. Invite your family and  
Sat friends for this special service. We will have candle lighting to *Silent Night* at  
all services.

DEC **Christmas Day Worship, 10am\***  
25 One service on Christmas Day. Note that our livestream will not offer real  
Sun time words or multiple camera angles. It will be one camera focused on the  
middle of the Sanctuary.

JAN **New Year's Day Worship, 10am\***  
01 One service on New Year's Day. Note that our livestream will not offer real  
Sun time words or multiple camera angles. It will be one camera focused on the  
middle of the Sanctuary.

\* Livestream on YouTube & Facebook