



A Whole Month of Thanksgiving!

November 16th, 2025 at 11:00 AM

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.

The flowers on the altar today are given by Alan & Marie Anderson in celebration of Emma and Ben's November birthdays!

# Worship Leaders - Sunday, November 16, 2025 (11:00 am)

DeaconEddy CrewsCommunion AssistantDon Clark

Usher

Acolytes Avery Olson, Sam Florez

Piano & Organ Janet Blomquist

Music Director Tori Hicks

Audio Board Tim Caldwell

Counters Frank Norem, Norm Roland

Altar Guild Karen Becker, Chris Markwell, Joan Nunemaker

Welcome Center Chuck Cortese
Coffee Hour Food Pantry Ministry

# **Contact Information**

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#### \*Indicates Congregation, Please Stand

#### **Prelude**

#### **Welcome and Announcements**

#### \*Confession and Forgiveness

- P Blessed be the holy Trinity, + one God, our maker, our helper, and our keeper.
- C Amen.
- P Trusting in God's mercy, let us confess our sin in the presence of God and of one another.

#### Silence is kept for reflection.

- P Merciful and loving God,
- C we are your rebellious people.
  We compete with those who have less than us.
  We grumble about your grace to others.
  We turn away from people who are in need.
  Have mercy on us and forgive our sins.
  Rejoice over us as ones who were lost and have been found.
  Amen.
- P Even when we are faithless, God remains faithful.

  Jesus Christ came into the world to save sinners.

  You who were lost have been found.

  In the name of + Jesus, your sins are forgiven!
- C Amen.

# \*Opening Song

#### "Sing and Shout"

Jorge Mhondera, Matt Redman, Willie Weeks;

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Oh, oh, oh, oh

**Verse 1** Your cross, Your cross, it draws me to Your heart.

It makes my spirit sing; it makes my spirit sing. Your grace, Your grace, oh, I hear it call my name.

I'm waking up to sing; I'm waking up to sing.

**Chorus** We will sing and shout, yeah, Sing and shout!

Open up our hearts and pour Your praises out. We will sing and shout, yeah, Sing and shout! Open up our hearts and pour Your praises out.

Oh, oh, oh, oh Oh, oh, oh, oh

**Verse 2** Because, because Your love came down,

It makes me want to sing; It makes me want to sing. Because, because, because You call my name,

I'm waking up to sing; I'm waking up to sing.

Repeat Chorus

Bridge What could be better than a grace

That washes all our shame away?

What could be better than Your great love?

What could be better than a grace
That leads us home and makes a way?
What could be better than Your great love?

Repeat Bridge Repeat Chorus

Oh, oh, oh

# \*Prayer of the Day

- P The Lord be with you.
- C And also with you.
- P Let us pray. O God, you are the giver of wisdom and endurance. Embrace us with your mercy, that with you as our ruler and guide, we may live through what is temporary without losing what is eternal, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.
- C Amen.

# Reading Malachi 4:1-2a

- D A reading from the book of Malachi, the fourth chapter. Listen for the Word of the Lord.
- C Our hearts are open.

See, the day is coming, burning like an oven, when all the arrogant and all evildoers will be stubble; the day that comes shall burn them up, says the LORD of hosts, so that it will leave them neither root nor branch. But for you who revere my name the sun of righteousness shall rise, with healing in its wings.

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

#### Psalm 98

- D A responsive reading from the book of Psalms.
- C Our hearts are open.

O sing to the LORD a new song, for he has done marvelous things. His right hand and his holy arm have gotten him victory.

The LORD has made known his victory; he has revealed his vindication in the sight of the nations.

He has remembered his steadfast love and faithfulness to the house of Israel.

All the ends of the earth have seen the victory of our God.

Make a joyful noise to the LORD, all the earth; break forth into joyous song and sing praises.

Sing praises to the LORD with the lyre, with the lyre and the sound of melody.

With trumpets and the sound of the horn make a joyful noise before the King, the LORD.

Let the sea roar and all that fills it, the world and those who live in it. Let the floods clap their hands; let the hills sing together for joy

at the presence of the LORD, for he is coming to judge the earth.

He will judge the world with righteousness and the peoples with equity.

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

# \*Gospel Acclamation

by Bart Millard & Pete Kipley © 2002 Simpleville Music/Songs from the Indigo Room Music CCLI# 2793209

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Word of God, speak Would You pour down like rain,

wash-ing my eyes to see Your maj -es-ty, to be still and know

that You're in this place? Please let me stay

and rest in Your ho - li ness. Word of God, speak.

\*Gospel Luke 21:5-19

- P The Holy Gospel according to Luke, the 21st chapter.
- C Glory to you, O Lord.

When some were speaking about the temple, how it was adorned with beautiful stones and gifts dedicated to God, [Jesus] said, "As for these things that you see, the days will come when not one stone will be left upon another; all will be thrown down."

They asked him, "Teacher, when will this be, and what will be the sign that this is about to take place?" And he said, "Beware that you are not led astray, for many will come in my name and say, 'I am he!' and, 'The time is near!' Do not go after them.'

"When you hear of wars and insurrections, do not be terrified, for these things must take place first, but the end will not follow immediately." Then he said to them, "Nation will rise against nation and kingdom against kingdom; there will be great earthquakes and in various places famines and plagues, and there will be dreadful portents and great signs from heaven.'

"But before all this occurs, they will arrest you and persecute you; they will hand you over to synagogues and prisons, and you will be brought before kings and governors because of my name. This will give you an opportunity to testify. So make up your minds not to prepare your defense in advance, for I will give you words and a wisdom that none of your opponents will be able to withstand or contradict. You will be betrayed even by parents and siblings, by relatives and friends, and they will put some of you to death. You will be hated by all because of my name. But not a hair of your head will perish. By your endurance you will gain your souls."

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

# **Sunday School Sings**

"Come with a Grateful Heart"

Joyful Singers

Baley, May

#### Children's Sermon

Sermon

Pastor Robin E. Caldwell

# \*Hymn of the Day

"How Can I Keep from Singing"

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**Verse 1** There is an endless song, echoes in my soul,

I hear the music ring.

And though the storms may come, I am holding on,

and to the Rock I cling.

**Chorus 1** How can I keep from singing Your praise?

How can I ever say enough How amazing is Your Love?

How can I keep from shouting Your Name?

I know I am loved by the King, And it makes my heart want to sing.

**Verse 2** I will lift my eyes in the darkest night,

For I know my Savior lives.

And I will walk with You knowing You'll see me through,

And sing the songs You give.

Repeat Chorus 1

**Bridge** I can sing in the troubled times, sing when I win,

I can sing when I lose my step and fall down again.

I can sing 'cause You pick me up, sing 'cause You're there. I can sing 'cause You hear me, Lord, when I call to You in

prayer.

I can sing with my last breath, sing for I know

That I'll sing with the angels, and the saints around the

throne.

**Chorus 2** How can I keep from singing Your praise?

How can I ever say enough How amazing is Your Love?

How can I keep from shouting Your Name?

I know I am loved by the King,

And it makes my heart;

I am loved by the King, and it makes my heart;

I am loved by the King,

And it makes my heart want to sing.

# Fall Stewardship Appeal Update

Tim Caldwell Stewardship Team

# **Litany of Gratitude**

- Р Give thanks to the Lord, who is good!
- С God's love is everlasting!
- Ρ Come, let us praise God joyfully!
- Let us come to God with thanksgiving. C
- Ρ For the new drinking fountain, that it quenches our thirst, and gives us refreshment;
- C That by refilling our water bottles, the oceans may be clean, animals safe, and our places free of litter;
- Ρ That the fountain remind us of our baptisms, and how precious water is:
- C And may this gift inspire us to greater generosity.
- Ρ In the name of God's generous Son, whom we praise.
- C Amen!

#### **Prayers of the Church**

In the hope of God's grace and salvation, the church prays for all the great needs of the world.

Your prayer requests may be shared silently during today's prayers, by filling out a green prayer request card in your pew or completing the Prayer Request form at stjohnjoliet.org.

Р Gracious God, we come to you in prayer for the church, the world, and all in need.

Congregation Sings the response:

"Nothing Can Trouble"

Words and Music: Jacques Berthier © 1982, 1983, 1984. Les Presses de Taize (France) International.
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Nothing can trouble Nothing can trouble, nothing can frighten. Those who seek God shall never go wanting. Nothing can trouble, nothing can frighten. God alone fills us.

The prayers conclude:

- P We entrust these prayers to you, O God, in the name of Jesus Christ, our redeemer and friend.
- 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.

#### **Ministry Highlight**

Food Pantry Ministry

St. John Food Pantry is a volunteer run food ministry supporting our community with nutritional food distributions twice a week throughout the year. We have volunteer opportunities on Wednesday-Saturday to receive and prepare food donations for our Thursday afternoon distribution from 4-6pm and our Saturday distribution from 8-10am.

This time of year we appeal for additional donations toward Holiday Meals. \$25 will provide a family of 6 with a turkey and sides for Thanksgiving, or a ham plus sides for Christmas.

The Food Pantry Ministry and all our ministries are made possible by Jesus and the General Fund, supported by generous people like you. Thank you

# Offertory

# Commitment to Community: A Spirit of Sharing

It feels good to give back and to "pay it forward!"

There is joy in being generous - giving to others from what God has blessed us with. Thank you for your generosity toward the ministries of St. John, which serve God, help our neighbors right here, bring aid to people in need across the country, and strengthen partnerships around the world.

Your gift of money and gift of presence are lifted up to God when you place your attendance sheet, prayer requests, and financial gifts in the offering plate. Thank you!











# \*Offertory Response

#### "Seek Ye First"

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**Verse 1** Seek ye first the kingdom of God and its righteousness, and all these things shall be added unto you. Allelu,

Alleluia.

**Verse 3** Ask and it shall be given unto you, seek and ye shall find,

Knock and the door shall be opened unto you, Allelu,

Alleluia.

#### \*Offertory Prayer

D Let us pray. Lord of the harvest, we return to you a portion of what you have given to us. Turn us to set our hope not on the uncertainty of riches, but on you, who richly provides for us. Multiply what we have gathered to bless all who are suffering and in need, through Jesus Christ our Lord. 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, through our Savior Jesus Christ; who on this day overcame death and the grave, and by his glorious resurrection opened to us the way of everlasting life. And so, with all the choirs of angels, with the church on earth and the hosts of heaven, we praise your name and join their unending hymn:

# \*Holy



#### \*Words of Institution

#### \*The Lord's Prayer

#### \*Invitation to Communion

P Jesus welcomes you to this table. Come to this meal of mercy.

C Thanks be to God!

#### Distribution

We believe Jesus Christ is the host of this table, his true presence is in this meal, and you are welcome to receive the bread and wine of resurrection.

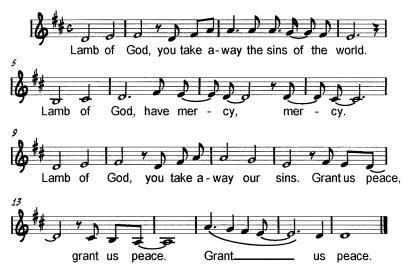
If you prefer your child to receive a blessing, place your hand upon their head or their hands.

#### **Communion Instruction**

- You will be invited forward by the usher or pastor.
- Gluten-free wafers are available upon request. Inform the pastor when at the rail.
- 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, and return to your pew via the side aisle.
- If you prefer to receive communion in your pew, communion pods are available at the entrance to the sanctuary. The pastor will say the words of distribution after the Invitation to Communion.

#### Lamb of God

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#### **Communion Music**

# 821

#### "Shout to the Lord"

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#### Verse

My Jesus, my Savior, Lord, there is none like you.

All of my days I want to praise the wonders of your mighty love.

My comfort, my shelter, tower of refuge and strength;

Let ev'ry breath, all that I am, never cease to worship you.

#### Chorus

Shout to the Lord, all the earth; let us sing

Power and majesty, praise to the King.

Mountains bow down and the seas will roar at the sound of your name.

I sing for joy at the work of your hands;

Forever I'll love you, forever I'll stand.

Nothing compares to the promise I have in you.

# Repeat All

Nothing compares to the promise I have in you.

# \*Blessing

C Amen.

# \*Prayer after Communion

- Let us pray. O God, through this meal you have strengthened us D and appointed us to be your servants. Send us to do good and to share our possessions with all in need. We ask this in Jesus' name.
- C Amen.

#### \*Benediction

Amen. (spoken)

# \*Sending Song

"Cry of My Heart"
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Chorus It is the cry of my heart to follow You.

It is the cry of my heart to be close to You.

It is the cry of my heart to follow

All of the days of my life.

Verse 1 Teach me Your holy ways, oh Lord,

So I can walk in Your truth.

Teach me Your holy ways, oh Lord,

And make me wholly devoted to You. Oh, oh, oh!

#### Repeat Chorus

#### \*Sending

Go in peace. Do not lose heart.

Thanks be to God!

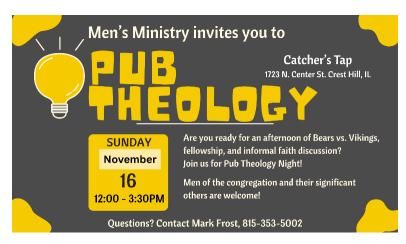
#### **Postlude**

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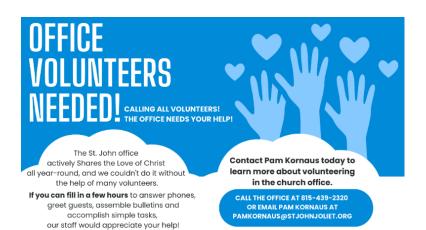






















	OVEMBER 16	(Monthly Special Offering: Helping Hands)		
8:30am -	9:30am	Worship: Sanctuary		
9:30am - 9:45am - 9:45am - 9:45am	10:30am	Coffee Hour: Host is Food Pantry Ministry		
(IVAVEMBET) 9:45am-	10:00am	Sunday School Sings Rehearsal: Choir Room		
9.45dill-	10:45am	Sunday School: Sanctuary, West Wing, Karin Johnson Hall		
9:45am -	10:45am	Parent Care Group Meeting: Trinity Room		
11:00am -	12:00pm	Worship: Sanctuary (Sunday School Sings)		
12:00pm -	2:30pm	Men's Ministry Pub Theology: Off-Site		
12:15pm -	2:30pm	Tween GO!: Karin Johnson Hall		
1:00pm -	3:00pm	MOMCO Craft & Connect: Trinity Room		
1:30pm -	3:30pm	Youth Bowling Event: Off-Site		
5:00pm -	6:00pm	Spanish Worship: Sanctuary		
MONDAY, NOVEMBER 17				
1:00pm -	3:00pm	Staff Meeting: Trinity Room		
5:30pm -	8:00pm	A.A. Woman's Group: Karin Johnson Hall		
6:30pm -	8:30pm	Monday Night Small Group: Trinity Room		
7:00pm -	8:00pm	Al-Anon: West Wing 3&4		
7:00pm -	8:00pm	Handbells: Sanctuary		
8:00pm -	9:00pm	Handbell Ensemble: Sanctuary		
TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 18				
1:00pm -	3:00pm	Prayer Shawl Ministry: Youth Room		
7:00pm -	9:00pm	Council Meeting: Trinity Room		
WEDNESDA	Y, NOVEMBE	R 19		
8:30am -	12:00pm	Food Pantry Volunteer Shift: Karin Johnson Hall		
7:00pm -	8:30pm	Confirmation: Building		
THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 20				
9:00am -	11:30am	Coffee with Friends (Women): Youth Room		
9:00am -	1:00pm	Food Pantry Volunteer Shift: Karin Johnson Hall		
10:00am -	11:00am	Altar Guild Meeting: Trinity Room		
2:00pm -	7:00pm	Food Pantry Volunteer Shift: Karin Johnson Hall		
4:00pm -	5:00pm	Green Team Meeting: Narthex		
6:45pm -	8:00pm	St. John Chorale: Choir Room		
7:00pm -	8:00pm	A.A. Men's Group: Zoom		
8:00pm -	9:00pm	Praise Team Rehearsal: Sanctuary		
FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 21				
8:30am -	12:00pm	Food Pantry Volunteer Shift: Karin Johnson Hall		
9:00am -	11:00am	Quilters: West Wing 5		
9:00am -	10:30am	Meals on Wheels: Senior Services of Will County, Mark Frost		
4:00pm -		HS Fall Retreat Depart: St. John Parking Lot		
5:00pm -	9:30pm	4:12 Annual Meeting: Off-Site		
SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 22				
7:00am -	11:00am	Food Pantry Volunteer Shifts: Narthex & Karin Johnson Hall		
8:00am -	10:00am	Food Pantry Distribution Drive-Thru: Parking Lot		
11:00am -	12:00pm	Mike Mihavics Visitation: Narthex		
12:00pm -	1:00pm	Mike Mihavics Memorial Service: Sanctuary		
1:00pm -	2:00pm	Mike Mihavics Luncheon: Building		
5:30pm -	6:30pm	Worship: Sanctuary		
SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 23				
8:30am -	9:30am	Worship: Sanctuary		
9:45am -	10:00am	Sunday School Sings Rehearsal: Choir Room		
9:45am -	10:45am	Sunday School: Sanctuary, West Wing, Karin Johnson Hall		
11:00am -	12:00pm	Worship: Sanctuary		

<sup>\*</sup>Check "stjohnfood.org" for Food Pantry distribution times and volunteer opportunities.

2:00pm HS Fall Retreat Returns: St. John Parking Lot

6:00pm Spanish Worship: Sanctuary

5:00pm -