

St. John
Lutheran Church



Thanksgiving Eve

Wednesday, November 24, 2021

7:00 p.m.



TODAY WE GIVE THANKS

Happy Thanksgiving



Church Decorating Event

This Sunday, November 28th



6pm - 8pm

Please, adults only.

Sign up at stjohnjoliet.org

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.

Additional seating is available in the Trinity Room.



Worship Leaders – Wednesday 7:00 pm

Deacon	Glenn Smith
Communion Assistant	Lynne Smith
Greeter	Sam Riggi
Ushers	Joe Aincham, Jon Blomquist, Bryan Yergler
Organ	Janet Blomquist
Accompanist	Susan Fick
Music Director	Tori Hicks
Handbell Director	Sarah Wernli
Audio Board	Mike Pragit
Livestream Team	Elliott Liss, Mary Wilcox, Collin Wilcox
Counters	Nancy Kautz, Sharon Sullivan
Altar Guild	Jan Drish, Carol Robinson, Marge West

Contact Information

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

**Indicates Congregation, Please Stand*

Prelude

“Give Thanks”
Praise Team

Smith

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

“Sing to the Lord of Harvest”
Handbell Ensemble

Steurlein, arr. Moklebust

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

Gospel Verse from *Now the Feast and Celebration*, by Marty Haugen © 1990 GIA Publications. OneLicense A-712815

Congregation:

Al - le - lu - ia, 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 Jen Beamsley

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.
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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

“Autumn Carol” arr. Schulz-Widmar
St. John Chorale & Handbell Ensemble

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.

Song

“How Can I Keep from Singing”
Praise Team

Tomlin, Cash, Redman

Fourth Petition

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

Hymn

856, Vs. 1 & 4

“How Great Thou Art”

Text: Carl G. Boberg, 1859-1940; tr. and adapt. Stuart K. Hine, 1899-1989; Music: Swedish folk tune;
adapt. Stuart K. Hine; Text & Music: © 1953, ren. 1981 S.K. Hine, assigned to Manna Music, Inc.

Verse 1 O Lord my God, when I in awesome wonder
Consider all the works thy hand hath made,
I see the stars, I hear the mighty thunder,
Thy pow’r throughout the universe displayed;

Refrain Then sings my soul, my Savior God, to thee,
How great thou art! How great thou art!
Then sings my soul, my Savior God, to thee,
How great thou art! How great thou art!

Verse 4 When Christ shall come, with shout of acclamation,
And take me home, what joy shall fill my heart!
Then I shall bow in humble adoration
And there proclaim, “My God, how great thou art!”

Repeat Refrain

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. Those who move to greet others may choose their greeting at the discretion of the person you are greeting.

Please be mindful of the non-verbal cue you are receiving, and ask what the person is comfortable with before greeting.

Offertory

“For the Beauty of the Earth”

arr. Christopher

Commitment to Community

Each week in our worship you are invited to give to the mission and ministry of this church, by your involvement and/or your financial gifts. When you give, you are not only supporting this congregation, but you are offering to the broader community-- choosing connection, choosing generosity.

It is these small acts of care, connection, and love that can help heal the hurt in the world.

*Thank you for giving your resources to our shared ministry.
Let us give with our grateful hearts.*

***Offertory Response**

465, Vs. 1

As the Grains of Wheat”

Refrain As the grains of wheat once scattered on the hill
Were gathered into one to become our bread;
So may all your people from all the ends of earth
Be gathered into one in you.

Verse 1 As this cup of blessing is shared within our midst
May we share the presence of your love.

Repeat Refrain

*Offertory Prayer

D Let us pray. God of abundance, **you cause streams to break forth in the desert and manna to rain from the heavens. Accept the gifts you have first given us. Unite them with the offering of our lives to nourish the world you love so dearly, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and 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

“Holy, Holy, Holy, Lord God Almighty” # 413, Vs. 4

Text by: Reginald Heber. Music by: John B. Dykes. Public Domain. Reprinted & streamed with permission under OneLicense #A-712815. All Rights Reserved.

Verse 4 Holy, holy, holy! Lord God Almighty!
All thy works shall praise thy name in earth and sky and sea.
Holy, holy, holy, merciful and mighty!
God in three persons, blessed Trinity!

*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.*
- *You may bring your offering/attendance slip forward and place in the offering basket or place in the offering plates by the doors as you leave.*
- *Gluten free wafers are available upon request. Inform the pastor when receiving communion.*
- *Wear your masks as you come forward; lift your mask when receiving the elements of bread and then again with the grape juice or the wine.*
- *The deep purple wine is on the outer rings of the tray; the golden 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.*

Lamb of God

Music by: Ellen Goodwin. © 2008. Used by permission

Lamb of God, you take a-way the sins of the world.

Lamb of God, have mer - cy, mer - cy.

Lamb of God, you take a-way our sins. Grant us peace,

grant us peace. Grant us peace.

Communion Music

"I Am Thankful"
"Come, Thou Fount of Every Blessing"
"For the Fruit of All Creation"

Baloche, Jordan, Ingram
arr. Carlson
arr. Albrecht

*Blessing

*Prayer after Communion

D Let us pray. Lord of life, in the gift of your body and blood you turn the crumbs of our faith into a feast of salvation. Send us forth into the world with shouts of joy, bearing witness to the abundance of your love in Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

C Amen.

*Benediction

C *Sing* AMEN. AMEN. AMEN.

*Sending Song

545, Vs. 1 & 2

“Lord, Dismiss Us with Your Blessing”

Text by: John Fawcett. Music by: Sicilian. Public Domain. Reprinted & streamed with permission under OneLicense #A-712815. All Rights Reserved.

Verse 1 Lord, dismiss us with your blessing,
Fill our hearts with joy and peace;
Let us each, your love possessing,
Triumph in redeeming grace.
Oh, refresh us; oh, refresh us,
Trav'ling through this wilderness.

Verse 2 Thanks we give and adoration
For your gospel's joyful sound.
May the fruits of your salvation
In our hearts and lives abound.
Ever faithful, ever faithful
To your truth may we be found.

*Sending

D Go in peace. Serve the Lord!

C **Thanks be to God!**

Postlude

“No. 1 from Three Pieces”

Boellmann



Thanksgiving Eve Edition

Worship & Events

**NOV-
DEC**

Food Pantry Holiday Meal Kits

We are planning to give 600 holiday dinner kits to our hungry neighbors. If you'd like to donate, each one is \$18 and includes turkey or ham, fresh potatoes, sides, & a dessert.

**NOV
25-27**

Thanksgiving Day, Weekend

Office closed Nov. 25 & 26. Food Pantry closed Nov. 27; 5:30pm Saturday worship as usual.

**NOV
28**

Church Christmas Decorating - Sunday

Adults only, please. We have garland, wreaths, trees, and more to put up around the building, sign up at stjohnjoliet.org.

**NOV
30**

Giving Tuesday

If you or your employer are looking to give to an organization making a difference in our community, choose our Food Pantry.

**DEC
2**

Advent Evening Prayer

Find quiet in the sanctuary and ready your heart for Christmas. Thursdays in December at 7pm. Livestream begins at 6:55pm

**DEC
5**

Sunday School Christmas Program

Hear the story of Christ's birth as told by our Sunday School children. *God's Greatest Gift* begins at 7pm, livestream at 6:55pm.

**DEC
12**

The Gift of Time with your Plus 1

3pm - 5pm Relax. Shop. Rest. St. John's Youth Service Team welcomes 4 - 10-year-olds for a few hours of activities and crafts while you get a break. Sign up at stjohnjoliet.org.

Light Up the Night

6:15pm Parking lot opens
7pm Program and lighting

Find light in the darkness as we light up St. John and the tree in the parking lot. More details to come. Will Livestream.



St. John

Thanksgiving Eve Edition

Worship & Events

**DEC
19**

Longest Night Service

What is one to do when nothing feels merry and bright during "the most wonderful time of the year"? Bring yourself to this 7pm service to hear healing words of comfort from our pastors.

**DEC
24**

Christmas Eve

We are looking forward to hearing *Silent Night* in the Sanctuary next month as we celebrate the birth of Jesus. Worship with candle lighting at all services, 3pm, 5pm, and 11pm

**DEC
25**

Merry Christmas! Building Closed.

**DEC
26**

10am worship with Livestream.



- Please stop by the office and pick up your All Saint's Day Crosses. 
- We are putting together a Sound Team! Sound interesting?? See Pastor Jen or Tori Hicks.
- Looking for a way to connect and serve at your church? St. John's Altar Guild is looking for a few good women! See Pastor Jen or Jan Drish. 

Holiday Information

November 25 - Office Closed

November 26 - Office Closed

November 27 - No Food Pantry

Please take
thyme to share
our worship
link!



grateful
♥



AVAILABLE 11/24: STJOHNJOLIET.ORG
AVAILABLE 11/27-28: NARTHEX

ANGEL TREE
in partnership with
St. John
LUTHERAN CHURCH

angel TAGS



AVAILABLE 11/27-28: NARTHEX

giving tree TAGS



\$10 increments for Target,
Shell, Walmart, Speedway,
McDonald's & Goodwill work best

Christmas Poinsettias



**Order
plants at
stjohnjoliet.org
today!**

*Order at the church
office beginning
Monday, Nov. 29th*