

St. John
Lutheran Church

Worship Series



Loved by God

CALLED TO SERVE

The Church Has Left the Building



Sunday, October 31st
8:30am


Commitment
to Community 

All Saints Day

Next Saturday & Sunday,

Send or bring your
decorated cross(es)
to the church office
on or before Nov. 5th.

St. John

We're happy you
found us! 

new member class

Saturday, November 13th

One Day Only

9am - Noon

let us know you're coming

email info@stjohnjoliet.org

call 815-439-2320

sign-up 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.

The altar flowers today are given by our members in honor of our pastors. To sponsor altar flowers for our worship space, sign up at the Opportunity Wall in the Narthex or call the church office.

Additional seating is available in the Trinity Room.

Worship Leaders – Sunday 8:30 am

Deacon	Michelle Covert
Communion Assistant	Pam Murray
Greeter	Sam Riggi
Ushers	Jon Blomquist, Judy Mihavics-Dachman, Bob Makowka
Piano & Organ	Janet Blomquist
Audio Board	Keith Markwell
Livestream Team	Rob Kornaus, Dawn MacGregor
Counters	Nancy Kautz, Sharon Sullivan
Altar Guild	Carol Robinson, Marge West

Contact Information

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

 **St. John Lutheran Church, Joliet**

**Indicates Congregation, Please Stand*

Prelude

“Fughetta in C”

Buxtehude

Welcome and Announcements

***Confession and Forgiveness**

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

C **Amen.**

P Family of faith, we have all been in the place where we've hurt others and God's creation, sometimes without awareness, and sometimes with reactions that spring from pain or defensiveness. This is part of being human.

P God invites us to acknowledge our humanity and learn from our mistakes, letting forgiveness change our hearts. In this time of confession, we seek to learn God's gracious ways.

P Holy God,

C **We react because we see suffering, we do not understand.**

P We are skeptical because we know heartbreak that does not seem fair.

C **We withhold attention because sacrifice only feels real when it's our own.**

P Forgive us when we forget that you created the heavens and earth.

C **Forgive us for withholding our pain from you.**

P Forgive us for failing to love the things you love.

C **Help us learn from our mistakes.**

P Help us to forgive others with the mercy you show us.

C **Gratefully we pray. Amen.**

P Family of faith, this is a new day. God is here. God is at work among us. We are † forgiven! Let us worship the God who calls us to love and serve one another.

C **Amen!**

“A Mighty Fortress Is Our God”

Text & Music by: Martin Luther. Lutheran Book of Worship. © 1978 Lutheran Book of Worship, admin. Augsburg Fortress.
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Verse 1 A mighty fortress is our God,
A sword and shield victorious;
He breaks the cruel oppressor's rod
And wins salvation glorious.
The old satanic foe
Has sworn to work us woe!
With craft and dreadful might
He arms himself to fight.
On earth he has no equal.

Verse 2 No strength of ours can match his might!
We would be lost, rejected.
But now a champion comes to fight,
Whom God himself elected.
You ask who this may be?
The Lord of hosts is he!
Christ Jesus, mighty Lord,
God's only Son, adored.
He holds the field victorious.

Verse 3 Though hordes of devils fill the land
All threat'ning to devour us,
We tremble not, unmoved we stand;
They cannot over pow'r us.
Let this world's tyrant rage;
In battle we'll engage!
His might is doomed to fail;
God's judgment must prevail!
One little word subdues him.

Verse 4 God's Word forever shall abide,
No thanks to foes, who fear it;
For God himself fights by our side
With weapons of the Spirit.
Were they to take our house,
Goods, honor, child or spouse,
Though life be wrenched away,
They cannot win the day.
The kingdom's ours forever!

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. Holy One, we pray for your holy church. Fill it with all truth and peace. Where it is corrupt, purify it; where it is in error, direct it; where in anything it is amiss, reform it; where it is right, strengthen it; where it is in need, provide for it; where it is divided, reunite it; for the sake of your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C **Amen.**

Psalm 46

D A responsive reading from Psalm 46. Listen for the Word of the Lord.

C **Our ears are open.**

God is our refuge and strength,
a very present help in trouble.

**Therefore, we will not fear, though the earth should change,
though the mountains shake in the heart of the sea;
though its waters roar and foam,
though the mountains tremble with its tumult.**

There is a river whose streams make glad the city of God, the holy habitation of the Most High.

God is in the midst of the city; it shall not be moved; God will help it when the morning dawns.

The nations are in an uproar, the kingdoms totter;
he utters his voice, the earth melts.

**The Lord of hosts is with us;
the God of Jacob is our refuge.**

Come, behold the works of the Lord;
see what desolations he has brought on the earth.

**He makes wars cease to the end of the earth;
he breaks the bow, and shatters the spear;
he burns the shields with fire.**

“Be still and know that I am God!
I am exalted among the nations,
I am exalted in the earth.”

**The Lord of hosts is with us;
the God of Jacob is our refuge.**

D Word of God, Word of Life!

C **Thanks be to God!**

Reading**1 Kings 5:1-5; 8:1-13**

D A reading from the first book of Kings, the fifth and eighth chapters.
Listen for the Word of the Lord.

C **Our ears are open.**

Hiram king of Tyre sent ambassadors to Solomon when he heard that he had been crowned king in David's place. Hiram had loved David his whole life. Solomon responded, saying, “You know that David my father was not able to build a temple in honor of God because of the wars he had to fight on all sides, until God finally put them down. But now God has provided peace all around—no one against us, nothing at odds with us.

“Now here is what I want to do: Build a temple in honor of God, my God, following the promise that God gave to David my father, namely, ‘Your son whom I will provide to succeed you as king, he will build a house in my honor.’ And here is how you can help: Give orders for cedars to be cut from the Lebanon forest; my loggers will work alongside yours and I'll pay your men whatever wage you set. We both know that there is no one like you Sidonians for cutting timber.”

Bringing all this to a climax, King Solomon called in the leaders of Israel, all the heads of the tribes and the family patriarchs, to bring up the Chest of the Covenant of God from Zion, the City of David. And they came, all Israel before King Solomon in the month of Ethanim, the seventh month, for the great autumn festival.

With all Israel's leaders present, the priests took up the Chest of God and carried up the Chest and the Tent of Meeting and all the holy vessels that went with the Tent. King Solomon and the entire congregation of Israel were there at the Chest worshiping and sacrificing huge numbers of sheep and cattle—so many that no one could keep track.

Then the priests brought the Chest of the Covenant of God to its place in the Inner Sanctuary, the Holy of Holies, under the wings of the cherubim. The outspread wings of the cherubim stretched over the Chest and its poles. The poles were so long that their ends could be seen from the entrance to the Inner Sanctuary but were not noticeable farther out. They're still there today. There was nothing in the Chest but the two stone tablets that Moses had placed in it at Horeb where God made a covenant with Israel after bringing them up from Egypt. When the priests left the Holy Place, a cloud filled The Temple of God. The priests couldn't carry out their priestly duties because of the cloud—the glory of God filled The Temple of God!

Then Solomon spoke:
God has told us that he lives in the dark
where no one can see him;
I've built this splendid Temple, O God,
to mark your invisible presence forever.

- 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

John 2:19-21

- P The Holy Gospel according to John, the second chapter.
- C **Glory to you, O Lord.**

Jesus answered them, "Destroy this temple, and in three days I will raise it up." The Jews then said, "This temple has been under construction for forty-six years, and will you raise it up in three days?" But he was speaking of the temple of his body.

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

Children's Sermon

Sermon

Pastor Evan Mayhew

“Gather Us In”

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Verse 1 Here in this place the new light is streaming,
Now is the darkness vanished away;
See in this space our fears and our dreamings
Brought here to you in the light of this day.
Gather us in, the lost and forsaken,
Gather us in, the blind and the lame;
Call to us now, and we shall awaken,
We shall arise at the sound of our name.

Verse 2 We are the young, our lives are a myst'ry,
We are the old who yearn for your face;
We have been sung throughout all of hist'ry,
Called to be light to the whole human race.
Gather us in, the rich and the haughty,
Gather us in, the proud and the strong;
Give us a heart, so meek and so lowly,
Give us the courage to enter the song.

Verse 3 Here we will take the wine and the water,
Here we will take the bread of new birth,
Here you shall call your sons and your daughters,
Call us anew to be salt for the earth.
Give us to drink the wine of compassion,
Give us to eat the bread that is you;
Nourish us well, and teach us to fashion
Lives that are holy and hearts that are true.

Verse 4 Not in the dark of buildings confining,
Not in some heaven, light years away –
Here in this place the new light is shining,
Now is the kingdom, and now is the day.
Gather us in and hold us forever,
Gather us in and make us your own;
Gather us in, all peoples together,
Fire of love in our flesh and our bone.

***Apostles' Creed**

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

I believe in Jesus Christ, God's only Son, our Lord.
He was conceived by the power of the Holy Spirit
and born of the virgin Mary.
He suffered under Pontius Pilate,
was crucified, died, and was buried.
He descended into hell.
On the third day he rose again.
He ascended into heaven,
and is seated at the right hand of the Father.
He will come again to judge the living and the dead.

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. Amen.

Joys and Concerns of our Faith Community

Prayer request cards are available in your pews.

You may place the card in the offering plate or give to a pastor.

Prayers of the Church

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P God welcomes our prayers. Today, we bring what is needed to God,
trusting we are heard.

Response (sing):

**Oh God, we call (repeat)
From deep inside we yearn (repeat)
From deep inside we yearn for you**

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

“We Bow Down”

Paris

Commitment to Community

We are committed to God’s holy work at St. John. As we turn toward the year ahead, you are invited to give to the mission and ministry of our church. When we gather our financial resources we can:

- *Reimagine our gatherings and invest in their purpose and direction*
- *Reconnect to deepen our relationship with Christ and each other*
- *Care for each other in inclusive ways, standing ourselves for the ups and downs of our lives*

You are invited to bring forward your 2022 Commitment Cards to support this holy work at St. John. You may bring your offerings, bulletin inserts, and your commitment card forward when you come to receive communion. If you are receiving communion in your pew today, you can use the offering plates outside the Sanctuary doors.

*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

Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly are you, God of pow - er and
might; Heav - en and earth are filled with your
glo - ry, Ho - san - na in the high - est! Bless - ed is the
One who comes in your name. Ho - san - na in the
high - est, 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** Come, you who have much faith, and you who have little.
Christ will meet us here!
- 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.*

Communion Music

“Brethren, We Have Met to Worship”
“This is My Father’s World”

Atkins, Moore
Babcock, Sheppard

***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

652 Vs. 1 & 2

“Built on a Rock”

Text by: Nikolai F.S. Grundtvig, tr. Carl Doving. Music by: Ludvig M. Lindeman. Text © 1958 Service Book and Hymnal, admin. Augsburg Fortress. Reprinted & streamed with permission under OneLicense 3A-712815. All Rights Reserved.

Verse 1 Built on a rock the church shall stand,
Even when steeples are falling;
Crumbled have spires in ev'ry land,
Bells still are chiming and calling --
Calling the young and old to rest,
Calling the souls of those distressed,
Longing for life everlasting.

Verse 2 Surely, in temples made with hands
God the Most High is not dwelling --
High in the heav'ns his temple stands,
All earthly temples excelling.
Yet God who dwells in heav'n above
Deigns to abide with us in love,
Making our bodies his temple.

*Sending

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

Postlude

“No. 1 Fuga”

Pachelbel

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St. John This Weekend

It's not too late to turn in your commitment card or submit your commitment at stjohnjoliet.org



Commitment
to Community



College-Age Care Package Item Sign Up

Stop by the table in the Narthex and pick up a tag if you'd like to donate an item for the college-age care packages we will be creating this month! Thank you for your support.



Order your altar flowers at
stjohnjoliet.org

or by calling the church office
at 815-439-2320.



HAPPY
Anniversary
DAY



LET'S
CELEBRATE

