

Now he is God not of the dead,
but of the living ...

Luke 20:38, NRSV



St. John's Evangelical Lutheran Church
November 9, 2025

ST. JOHN'S EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH
106 Scheid Road, Sandusky, OH 44870
(419) 625-2192 www.stjohnlcsandusky.com
Sanctuary Worship 10:30 a.m. Live streamed to Facebook

Stacy Lauer-Scovanner, Pastor

November 9, 2025 Twenty-second Sunday after Pentecost

Welcome to Worship! We worship on the first day of the week because Jesus was raised on that day. Every Sunday is a little Easter. This Sunday feels more like Easter than many as the appointed texts celebrate the reality of the resurrection. Live it up this Lord's day. Our God is the God of the living.

As Lutheran Christians, we believe and teach that Christ is truly present in the celebration of Holy Communion as he is God with us. Christians of all denominations are encouraged to come to the Lord's table. We commune children of any age who have received communion instruction at St. John or another Christian church. Children who have not yet received communion instruction will receive a blessing. Both red wine and white grape juice are offered to accommodate various traditions. Gluten free wafers are provided for those with dietary restrictions. Please make the pastor aware of your need.

We give thanks to Rev. Lynn Schlessman for helping lead our worship today. If you are visiting today, please sign the guest register after worship. Plan to worship with us again next Sunday.

Bell

Welcome and Announcements

Please stand if you are able

Gathering

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

Confession and Forgiveness

In the name of the Father, and of the ✝ Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

Amen.

God of all mercy and consolation, come to the help of your people, turning us from our sin to live for you alone. Give us the power of your Holy Spirit that we may confess our sin, receive your forgiveness, and grow into the fullness of Jesus Christ, our Savior and 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 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

"Jerusalem, My Happy Home"

ELW 628

Arr. © 2006 Augsburg Fortress

1 Jerusalem, my happy home,
when shall I come to thee?
When shall my sorrows have an end?
Thy joys when shall I see?

2 O happy harbor of the saints,
O sweet and pleasant soil!
In thee no sorrow may be found,
no grief, no care, no toil.

3 Thy gardens and thy gallant walks
continually are green;
there grow such sweet and pleasant flow'rs
as nowhere else are seen.

4 There trees forevermore bear fruit
and evermore do spring;
there evermore the angels sit
and evermore do sing.

5 Jerusalem, Jerusalem,
God grant that I may see

thine endless joy, and of the same
partaker ever be!

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.

Canticle of Praise

D A/C# Bm Bm/A G A sus A D

As the deer pants for the wa-ter, so my soul longs af - ter you.

A/C# Bm D/A D/F# Em⁷ A⁷ sus A⁷ D

You a - lone are my heart's de - sire and I long to wor - ship you.

Bm Bm/A G D/F# G Bm/F# Em F# sus F#

You a - lone are my strength, my shield, to you a - lone may my spir - it yield;

D A/C# Bm D/A D/F# Em⁷ A⁷ sus A⁷ D

you a - lone are my heart's de - sire, and I long to wor - ship you.

Prayer of the Day

Let us pray.

O God, our eternal redeemer, by the presence of your Spirit you renew and direct our hearts. Keep always in our mind the end of all things and the day of judgment. Inspire us for a holy life here, and bring us to the joy of the resurrection, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.

Please be seated

First Reading: Job 19:23-27a

A reading from Job.

Job suffers the loss of children, wealth, and health. Accused by his companions of wrongdoing, he knows himself to be innocent. Here, in the midst of his suffering, Job clings to the radical hope that his vindicator, his redeemer, lives; and that one day he himself will see God.

²³ “O that my words were written down!
O that they were inscribed in a book!

²⁴ O that with an iron pen and with lead
they were engraved on a rock forever!

²⁵ For I know that my vindicator lives

and that in the end he will stand upon the earth;
²⁶ and after my skin has been destroyed,
then in my flesh I shall see God,
^{27a} whom I shall see on my side,
and my eyes shall behold, and not another.”

The word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

Psalm: Psalm 17 (Read responsively)

¹ Hear a just cause, O LORD; give heed to my cry;
listen to my prayer, which does not come from lying lips.

² **Let my vindication come forth from your presence;
let your eyes be fixed on justice.**

³ Examine my heart, visit me by night,
melt me down; you will find no impurity in me.

⁴ **I have not regarded what others do;
at the word of your lips I have avoided the ways of the violent. R**

⁵ My footsteps hold fast to your well-worn path;
and my feet do not slip.

⁶ **I call upon you, O God, for you will answer me;
incline your ear to me and hear my words.**

⁷ Show me your marvelous lovingkindness,
O Savior of those who take refuge at your right hand from those who rise against them.

⁸ **Keep me as the apple of your eye;
hide me under the shadow of your wings,**

⁹ from the wicked who assault me,
from my deadly enemies who surround me.

Second Reading: 2 Thessalonians 2:1-5, 13-17

A reading from 2 Thessalonians.

This portion of the letter provides encouragement for the church at Thessalonica during a time of confusion and opposition, as some allowed their concern over Jesus' imminent return to divert them from the central teachings of the gospel.

¹ As to the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ and our being gathered together to him, we beg you, brothers and sisters, ² not to be quickly shaken in mind or alarmed, either by spirit or by word or by letter, as though from us, to the effect that the day of the Lord is already here. ³ Let no one deceive you in any way, for that day will not come unless the

rebellion comes first and the lawless one is revealed, the one destined for destruction.

⁴ He opposes and exalts himself above every so-called god or object of worship, so that he takes his seat in the temple of God, declaring himself to be God. ⁵ Do you not remember that I told you these things when I was still with you?

¹³ But we must always give thanks to God for you, brothers and sisters beloved by the Lord, because God chose you as the first fruits for salvation through sanctification by the Spirit and through belief in the truth. ¹⁴ For this purpose he called you through our gospel, so that you may obtain the glory of our Lord Jesus Christ. ¹⁵ So then, brothers and sisters, stand firm and hold fast to the traditions that you were taught by us, either by word of mouth or by our letter.

¹⁶ Now may our Lord Jesus Christ himself and God our Father, who loved us and through grace gave us eternal comfort and good hope, ¹⁷ comfort your hearts and strengthen them in every good work and word.

The word of the Lord. Thanks be to God.

Gospel Acclamation

“Change My Heart, O God”

ELW 801

Text and music © 1982 Mercy/Vineyard Publishing (ASCAP), admin. Music Services

Refrain

Change my heart, O God;
make it ever true.
Change my heart, O God;
may I be like you.

You are the potter;
I am the clay.
Mold me and make me;
this is what I pray. Refrain

Gospel: Luke 20:27-38

The holy gospel according to Luke.

Glory to you, O Lord.

Some Sadducees, who do not believe in the resurrection of the dead, try to trap Jesus. They formulate the convoluted case of a serial widow who marries a succession of seven brothers. Jesus responds by teaching about God to whom all are alive and in whom all relationships are fulfilled.

²⁷ Some Sadducees, those who say there is no resurrection, came to [Jesus] ²⁸ and asked him a question: “Teacher, Moses wrote for us that if a man’s brother dies leaving a wife but no children, the man shall marry the widow and raise up children for his brother.

²⁹ Now there were seven brothers; the first married a woman and died childless; ³⁰ then the second ³¹ and the third married her, and so in the same way all seven died childless.

³² Finally the woman also died. ³³ In the resurrection, therefore, whose wife will the woman be? For the seven had married her.”

³⁴ Jesus said to them, “Those who belong to this age marry and are given in marriage,
³⁵ but those who are considered worthy of a place in that age and in the resurrection from
the dead neither marry nor are given in marriage. ³⁶ Indeed, they cannot die anymore,
because they are like angels and are children of God, being children of the resurrection.
³⁷ And the fact that the dead are raised Moses himself showed, in the story about the
bush, where he speaks of the Lord as the God of Abraham, the God of Isaac, and the
God of Jacob. ³⁸ Now he is God not of the dead but of the living, for to him all of them
are alive.”

The gospel of the Lord.
Please be seated.

Praise to you, O Christ.

Youth Time

“My God Is So Big”
Public Domain

Youth Hand Bells

Sermon

Hymn of the Day

“Day By Day”
Tr. © 1992 Augsburg Fortress

ELW 790

1 Day by day, your mercies, Lord, attend me,
bringing comfort to my anxious soul.
Day by day, the blessings, Lord, you send me
draw me nearer to my heav'nly goal.
Love divine, beyond all mortal measure,
brings to naught the burdens of my quest;
Savior, lead me to the home I treasure,
where at last I'll find eternal rest.

2 Day by day, I know you will provide me
strength to serve and wisdom to obey;
I will seek your loving will to guide me
o'er the paths I struggle day by day.
I will fear no evil of the morrow,
I will trust in your enduring grace.
Savior, help me bear life's pain and sorrow
till in glory I behold your face.

3 Oh, what joy to know that you are near me
when my burdens grow too great to bear;
oh, what joy to know that you will hear me
when I come, O Lord, to you in prayer.

Day by day, no matter what betide me,
you will hold me ever in your hand
Savior, with your presence here to guide me,
I will reach at last the promised land.

Nicene Creed

**We believe in one God, the Father, the Almighty, maker of heaven and earth,
of all that is, seen and unseen.**

**We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ, the only Son of God,
eternally begotten of the Father,
God from God, Light from Light, true God from true God, begotten, not made,
of one Being with the Father; through him all things were made.
For us and for our salvation**

he came down from heaven,
was incarnate of the Holy Spirit and the virgin Mary
and became truly human.
For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate;
he suffered death and was buried.
On the third day he rose again in accordance with the scriptures;
he ascended into heaven and is seated at the right hand of the Father.
He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead,
and his kingdom will have no end.

We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life,
who proceeds from the Father and the Son,*
who with the Father and the Son is worshiped and glorified,
who has spoken through the prophets.
We believe in one holy catholic and apostolic church.
We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins.
We look for the resurrection of the dead,
and the life of the world to come. Amen.

*Or, “who proceeds from the Father.” The phrase “and the Son” is a later addition to the creed.

Prayers of the people:

Response: Hear us, O God. Your mercy is great.

Peace

The peace of Christ be with you always.

And also with you.

Please be seated

Youth Chime Offering

“Praise and Thanksgiving”

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Please stand if you are able

Offertory

Create in Me a Clean Heart

Offering Song

Cre - ate in me a clean heart, O God, and re - new a right
spir - it with - in me. Cast me not a - way from your pres - ence, and take
not your Ho - ly Spir - it from me. Re - store to me the joy of
your sal - va - tion, and up - hold me with your free Spir - it.

Music: Richard W. Hillert, b. 1923

Music © 1978 *Lutheran Book of Worship*, admin. Augsburg Fortress.

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Offertory Prayer

Let us pray.

Blessed are you, O God, maker of all things. Through your goodness you have blessed us with these gifts: our selves, our time, and our possessions. Use us, and what we have gathered, in feeding the world with your love, through the one who gave himself for us, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

Amen.

Great Thanksgiving

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.

Thanksgiving at the Table

You are indeed holy, almighty and merciful God.

You are most holy, and great is the majesty of your glory.

You so loved the world that you gave your only Son,
so that everyone who believes in him may not perish but have eternal life.

We give you thanks for his coming into the world
to fulfill for us your holy will and to accomplish all things for our salvation.

In the night in which he was betrayed, our Lord Jesus took bread, and gave thanks; broke it, and gave it to his disciples, saying: Take and eat; this is my body, given for you.
Do this for the remembrance of me.

Again, after supper, he took the cup, gave thanks, and gave it for all to drink,
saying: This cup is the new covenant in my blood, shed for you and for all people
for the forgiveness of sin.
Do this for the remembrance of me.

For as often as we eat of this bread and drink from this cup,
we proclaim the Lord's death until he comes.

Christ has died. Christ is risen. Christ will come again.

Remembering, therefore, his salutary command,
his life-giving passion and death, his glorious resurrection and ascension,
and the promise of his coming again, we give thanks to you, O Lord God Almighty,
not as we ought but as we are able;
we ask you mercifully to accept our praise and thanksgiving
and with your Word and Holy Spirit to bless us, your servants,
and these your own gifts of bread and wine,
so that we and all who share in the body and blood of Christ
may be filled with heavenly blessing and grace, and receiving the forgiveness of sin,
may be formed to live as your holy people and be given our inheritance with all your
saints.

To you, O God, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit,
be all honor and glory in your holy church, now and forever.

Amen.

The Lord's Prayer

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

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

Come to the banquet, for all is now ready.

Please be seated

Distribution

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.

Distribution Hymn: "I Am the Bread of Life"

ELW 485

Text and music © 1966 GIA Publications, Inc., 7404 S. Mason Ave., Chicago, IL 60638.

www.giamusic.com. 800.442.3358. All rights reserved. Used by permission.

1 "I am the Bread of life.
You who come to me shall not hunger,
and who believe in me shall not thirst.
No one can come to me unless the Father beckons."

Refrain

"And I will raise you up,
and I will raise you up,
and I will raise you up on the last day."

4 "I am the resurrection,
I am the life.
If you believe in me,
even though you die, you shall live forever." Refrain

2 "The bread that I will give
is my flesh for the life of the world,
and if you eat of this bread,
you shall live forever, you shall live forever."
Refrain

3 "Unless you eat
of the flesh of the Son of Man
and drink of his blood,
and drink of his blood,
you shall not have life within you." Refrain

5 Yes, Lord, I believe
that you are the Christ,
the Son of God,
who have come into the world. Refrain

Distribution Hymn: *"For the Bread Which You Have Broken"*
Text © 1925 Robert Jeffreys Jr., admin. Augsburg Fortress

ELW 494

1 For the bread which you have broken,
for the wine which you have poured,
for the words which you have spoken,
now we give you thanks, O Lord.

3 With the saints who now adore you,
seated at the heav'nly board,
may the church still waiting for you
keep love's tie unbroken, Lord.

2 By this promise that you love us,
by your gift of peace restored,
by your call to heav'n above us,
hallow all our lives, O Lord.

4 In your service, Lord, defend us;
in our hearts keep watch and ward;
in the world to which you send us
let your kingdom come, O Lord.

Post Communion Blessing

The body and blood of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ strengthen you and keep you in His care.

Amen

Prayer After Communion

Let us pray.

O God, we give you thanks that you have set before us this feast, the body and blood of your Son. By your Spirit strengthen us to serve all in need and to give ourselves away as bread for the hungry, through Jesus Christ our Lord.

Amen.

Sending

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

Blessing

The Lord bless you and keep you. The Lord's face shine on you with grace and mercy.
The Lord look upon you with favor and give you peace.

Amen

Sending Hymn

"Blessed Assurance"

ELW 638

Text: Fanny J. Crosby, 1820-1915 Music: Phoebe P. Knapp, 1830-1908 Public Domain

1 Blessed assurance, Jesus is mine!
Oh, what a foretaste of glory divine!
Heir of salvation, purchase of God,
born of his Spirit, washed in his blood.

Refrain

This is my story, this is my song,
praising my Savior, all the day long:
this is my story, this is my song,
praising my Savior all the day long.

2 Perfect submission, perfect delight,
visions of rapture now burst on my sight;
angels descending bring from above
echoes of mercy, whispers of love. Refrain

3 Perfect submission, all is at rest;
I in my Savior am happy and blest,
watching and waiting, looking above,
filled with his goodness, lost in his love. Refrain

Dismissal

Go in peace. Serve the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Postlude

"Blessed Assurance"

Text: Fanny J. Crosby, 1820-1915 Music: Phoebe P. Knapp, 1830-1908 Public Domain

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St. John's Evangelical Lutheran Church is:
"A Family of Disciples, Faithfully Making Christ Known"
And a congregation of the
Evangelical Lutheran Church in America (ELCA)

PEOPLE OF ST. JOHN'S, MINISTERS

Stacy Lauer-Scovanner, Pastor
Pastor Stacy's Day Off – Friday
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Lay Reader: Stephanie Cepec
Communion Assistant: Sandy Thompson
Attendance: Nov. 2 - 85

2025: The Year of Rest Memory Verse

“Incline your ear, and come to me; listen, so that you may live...” (Isaiah 55:3a).

Council asks the congregation to pray that people may be moved to consider serving on Council, that we all remain patient during the upheaval of the kitchen remodel, and that Pastor Stacy's continuing work to bring more youth into the life of the church bear fruit.

Communion Clean-up today: Jim Kluding

Nov.16 – Set-up – Joleen Dillender	Cleanup – Sandy Thompson
23 – No Communion	
30 – Set-up – Elizabeth Libben	Cleanup - Sue & Lynn Schlessman
Dec. 7 – Set-up – Paula Hoffman Laws	Cleanup – Paula
14 – Set-up – Jim Kluding	Cleanup – Jim
21 – Set-up -	Cleanup – Sue & Lynn Schlessman
24 – Set-up -	

Thank you for your willingness to help with this important ministry. If you would like to help, please see Joleen Dillender or Sandy Thompson.

Hanging of the Greens! Mark your calendars to decorate St. John's sanctuary for Christmas! Hanging of the greens will take place on Sunday, November 23rd right after worship along with a pizza fellowship. Please plan to join us!

We are happy to announce the birth of a baby boy, Marshall Lee Mowery to proud parents Emily (Zorn) and Blaine Mowery, grandmother, Rita Zorn and grandfather, Tim Zorn. Marshall was born on October 1st in Indianapolis IN and weighed 7 lbs. 6 oz. and 19 inches long. Congratulations and God's blessings as they begin their journey as a family.

The kitchen and fellowship hall renovation is scheduled to begin on Monday, November 17th. We give thanks to Bob Stacy who has taken the lead on the project working with the contractors along with a team of members representing the congregation and making decisions on the future needs in the renovation areas.

Community Events:

Veterans Day Flag Placing Event: If anyone is interested in honoring our fallen heroes, Groff Funeral Home is having a special event on Tuesday, November 11 at 4 PM at Meadow Green Bogart Rd. Huron. Looking for help with placing almost 3000 flags and flowers on veteran graves. We will have a short ceremony and then get started with placing the flags and flowers, and the entire event should take less than an hour!

Salvation Army Bell-Ringing

Zion Huron and St. John's will be ringing the bell at Cornell's on Saturday, December 6 from 9:00am – 8:00pm for the Salvation Army. There are 1-hour slots, but you are welcome to sign up for 2 hours if you want. The schedule is available at the back of the sanctuary. Grab a pen, pick a time, bring a friend if you want, and join this worthy cause!

Annual Sauerkraut Supper held at St. Stephen United Church of Christ on Tuesday, Nov. 11th. You can eat in or takeout 5 p.m. until sold out. Menu: Pork roast, sauerkraut, mashed potatoes, gravy, applesauce, drink and dessert. Cost: \$14 cash or \$14.50 card.

St. Stephen UCC's annual Christmas Bazaar takes place on Saturday, November 15th, 9 am to 3 pm at 905 E Perkins Ave. Sandusky. Door prize, lunch available, Free Admission.

2026 Calendars: Have you received a 2026 calendar or an abundance of calendars that you don't need? Please bring in your 2026 calendar and place in the basket in the back of the sanctuary and they will be taken to nursing homes. Thank you.

Happy Birthday to Dawn Schlessman, Pat Babiuch and Jacob Thompson.

Happy Anniversary to Chuck and Sandy Thompson.

Weekly Listening Plan

November 2025

Weekly Listening

“How Great is Our God”

Week 2 – “Name above all names, you are worthy of our praise...”

Enjoy the song selection video.

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=GNEKiVYi3Xs>

1. Read and reflect on the scripture that inspired the song. **Psalm 105:6**
2. Explore weekly practices connected to the lyrics throughout your week.
3. Have a conversation with someone this week about your favorite name for (or image of) God.

ST. JOHN'S CALENDAR FOR NOVEMBER 9TH THRU NOVEMBER 23RD

Sunday, Nov. 9	9:15 am 9:15 am 10:30 am	Study with Lynn Sunday School K-12 Worship
Tuesday, Nov. 11	1:00 pm 4:00 pm	Finance Team Flag Placing at Meadow Green Cemetery Huron
Wednesday, Nov. 13	10:30 am	Christianity & World Religions Book Discussion
Thursday, Nov. 14	5:30 pm 6:30 pm	Worship Team Choir Practice
Saturday, Nov. 15	7-10 PM	Catechism Class Event at St. John's
Sunday, Nov. 16	9:15 am 9:15 am 9:15 am 10:30 am	Study with Lynn Catechism Instruction Sunday School K-4 th grade Worship
Tuesday, Nov. 18	10:00 am 7:00 am	“Somehow” Book Discussion Church Council
Thursday, Nov. 20	5:30 pm 6:15 pm	Choir Practice Bell Choir Practice
Sunday, Nov. 23	9:15 am 10:30 am 11:30 am	Study with Lynn Worship Hanging of the Greens



We will beautify our sanctuary this Christmas season with poinsettias. Please place your order by **Sunday, November 16th**.

No. of plants _____ @ \$12.50 each _____

PLEASE MAKE CHECKS PAYABLE TO:
St. John's Lutheran Church

NAME _____

ADDRESS _____

CITY _____

IN LOVING MEMORY OF (Deceased) _____

IN HONOR OF (Living) _____