

St. John's Evangelical Lutheran Church

November 22, 2026

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 22, 2026 Christ the King Sunday

Welcome to Worship! On this final Sunday of the church year our gospel is Jesus' great story of judgment. In the end, the faithful are those who served Christ by ministering to those who are poor, hungry, naked, sick, or estranged. In the first reading God is the shepherd who seeks the lost, weak, and injured and feeds them with justice. We gather this day to celebrate the reign of Christ and his victory over death, yet we await the consummation of all things yet to come. Acknowledging Christ as our merciful ruler, we go forth that his reign may be known in our loving words and deeds.

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 thank SAM, Marcia Giordano for leading our worship this morning. 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

Call to Worship
Come, let us sing for joy to the Lord; let us shout aloud to the rock of our salvation!
Let us come before him with thanksgiving, and extol him with music and song!
For the Lord is a great God, and a great king above all gods.
In his hand are the depths of the earth; and the mountain peaks belong to him.
The sea is his, for he made it, and his hands formed the dry land.
Come, let us bow down in worship, let us kneel before the Lord our maker!

For he is our God, and we are the people of his pasture, and the flock under his care.
Come, let us sing for joy to the Lord; let us shout aloud to the rock of our salvation!
(Psalm 95:1-7a)

Gathering Hymn *"Crown Him with Many Crowns"* ELW **855**

Text: Matthew Bridges, 1800-1894, sts. 1-3, 5; Godfrey Thring, 1823-1903, st. 4
Music: George J. Elvey, 1816-1893 Public Domain

1 Crown him with many crowns,
the Lamb upon his throne;
hark, how the heav'nly anthem drowns
all music but its own.
Awake, my soul, and sing
of him who died for thee,
and hail him as thy matchless king
through all eternity.

2 Crown him the virgin's Son,
the God incarnate born,
whose arm those crimson trophies won
which now his brow adorn;
fruit of the mystic rose,
yet of that rose the stem,
the root whence mercy ever flows,
the babe of Bethlehem.

3 Crown him the Lord of love--
behold his hands and side,
rich wounds, yet visible above,
in beauty glorified.
No angels in the sky
can fully bear that sight,
but downward bend their burning eyes
at mysteries so bright.

4 Crown him the Lord of life,
who triumphed o'er the grave
and rose victorious in the strife
for those he came to save.
His glories now we sing,
who died and rose on high,
who died, eternal life to bring,
and lives that death may die.

5 Crown him the Lord of years,
the potentate of time,
creator of the rolling spheres,
ineffably sublime.

All hail, Redeemer, hail!
For thou hast died for me;
thy praise and glory shall not fail
throughout eternity.

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.

Prayer of the Day
The Lord be with you.
And also with you.

Let us pray.
Almighty and everlasting God, whose will it is to restore all things to your beloved Son, whom you anointed priest forever and king of all creation: Grant that all the people of the earth, now divided by the power of sin, may be united under the glorious and gentle rule of your Son, our Lord Jesus Christ, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.
Please be seated

First Reading: Ezekiel 34:11-16, 20-24
A reading from Ezekiel.
Because Israel's kings proved to be bad shepherds, Ezekiel declares that the LORD will assume the role of shepherd in Israel. The LORD will also set over them a shepherd-messiah, "my servant David," who will feed and care for the people.

11 Thus says the Lord GOD: I myself will search for my sheep and will sort them out. 12 As
shepherds sort out their flocks when they are among scattered sheep, so I will sort out my
sheep. I will rescue them from all the places to which they have been scattered on a
day of clouds and thick darkness. 13 I will bring them out from the peoples and gather
them from the countries and bring them into their own land, and I will feed them on the
mountains of Israel, by the watercourses, and in all the inhabited parts of the land. 14 I will
feed them with good pasture, and the mountain heights of Israel shall be their pasture;

there they shall lie down in good grazing land, and they shall feed on rich pasture on the
mountains of Israel. 15 I myself will be the shepherd of my sheep, and I will make them lie
down, says the Lord GOD. 16 I will seek the lost, and I will bring back the strays, and I will
bind up the injured, and I will strengthen the weak, but the fat and the strong I will
destroy. I will feed them with justice.
20 Therefore, thus says the Lord GOD to them: I myself will judge between the fat
sheep and the lean sheep. 21 Because you pushed with flank and shoulder and butted at all
the weak animals with your horns until you scattered them far and wide, 22 I will save my
flock, and they shall no longer be ravaged, and I will judge between sheep and sheep.
23 I will set up over them one shepherd, my servant David, and he shall feed them; he
shall feed them and be their shepherd. 24 And I the LORD will be their God, and my
servant David shall be prince among them; I the LORD have spoken.
The word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

Psalm: Psalm 95:1-7a (Read responsively)
1 Come, let us sing to the LORD;
let us shout for joy to the rock of our salvation.

[2] **Let us come before his presence with thanksgiving**
and raise a loud shout to him with psalms.
[3] For the LORD is a great God,
and a great King above all gods.
[4] **In his hand are the caverns of the earth,**
and the heights of the hills are his also.
[5] The sea is his, for he made it,
and his hands have molded the dry land.
[6] **Come, let us bow down and bend the knee,**
and kneel before the LORD our Maker.
[7a] For he is our God,
and we are the people of his pasture and the sheep of his hand.
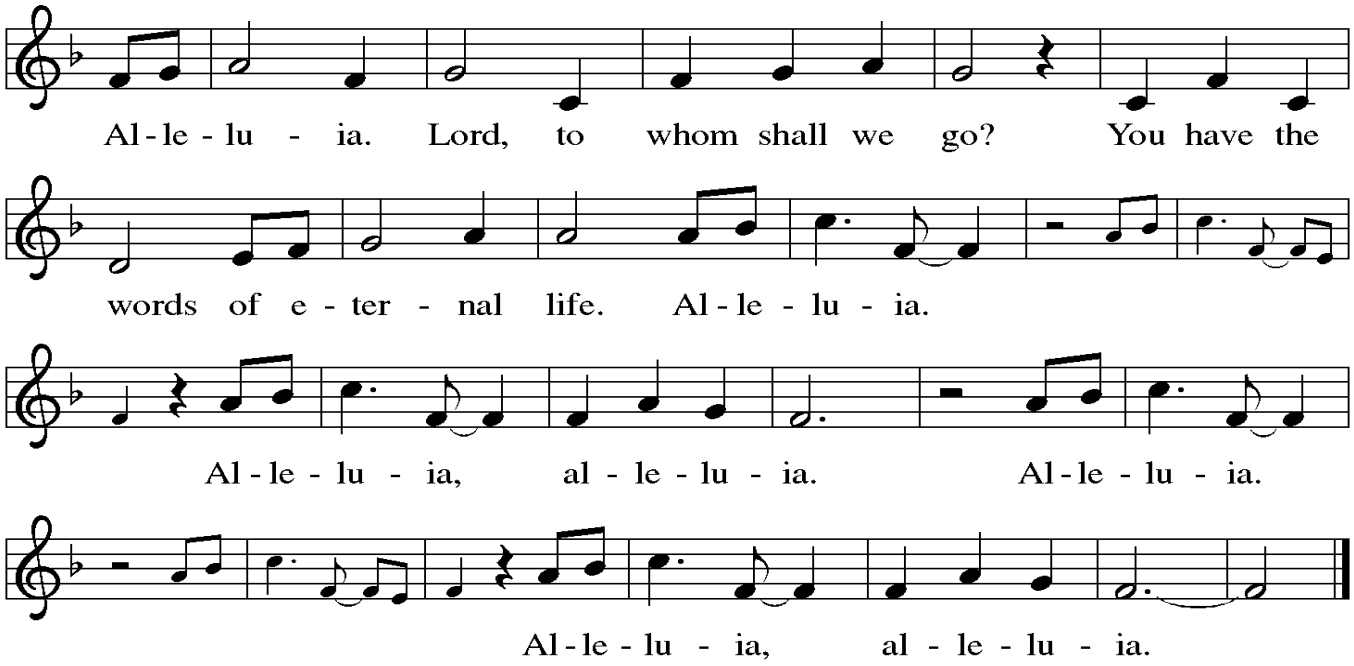
Second Reading: Ephesians 1:15-23
A reading from Ephesians.

In this passage, God is praised for revealing ultimate divine power in raising Jesus from the dead. The resurrected, exalted Christ is Lord of both the church and the entire universe, now and in the age to come.

[15] I have heard of your faith in the Lord Jesus and your love toward all the saints, and for this reason [16] I do not cease to give thanks for you as I remember you in my prayers, [17] that the God of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Father of glory, may give you a spirit of wisdom and revelation as you come to know him, [18] so that, with the eyes of your heart enlightened, you may perceive what is the hope to which he has called you, what are the riches of his glorious inheritance among the saints, [19] and what is the immeasurable greatness of his power for us who believe, according to the working of his great power. [20] God put this power to work in Christ when he raised him from the dead and seated him at his right hand in the heavenly places, [21] far above all rule and authority and power and dominion and above every name that is named, not only in this age but also in the age to come. [22] And he has put all things under his feet and has made him the head over all things for the church, [23] which is his body, the fullness of him who fills all in all.

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

Gospel Acclamation



Gospel: Matthew 25:31-46
The holy gospel according to Matthew.
Glory to you, O Lord.

Jesus compares himself to a king who moves among his subjects to see how he is treated: what is done for the least of those who belong to his family is truly done for him.

[Jesus said to the disciples:] 31 "When the Son of Man comes in his glory and all the angels
with him, then he will sit on the throne of his glory. 32 All the nations will be gathered
before him, and he will separate people one from another as a shepherd separates the
sheep from the goats, 33 and he will put the sheep at his right hand and the goats at the
left. 34 Then the king will say to those at his right hand, 'Come, you who are blessed by my
Father, inherit the kingdom prepared for you from the foundation of the world, 35 for I
was hungry and you gave me food, I was thirsty and you gave me something to drink, I
was a stranger and you welcomed me, 36 I was naked and you gave me clothing, I was sick
and you took care of me, I was in prison and you visited me.' 37 Then the righteous will
answer him, 'Lord, when was it that we saw you hungry and gave you food or thirsty and
gave you something to drink? 38 And when was it that we saw you a stranger and
welcomed you or naked and gave you clothing? 39 And when was it that we saw you sick
or in prison and visited you?' 40 And the king will answer them, 'Truly I tell you, just as
you did it to one of the least of these brothers and sisters of mine, you did it to me.'
41 Then he will say to those at his left hand, 'You who are accursed, depart from me into

the eternal fire prepared for the devil and his angels, [42] for I was hungry and you gave me no food, I was thirsty and you gave me nothing to drink, [43] I was a stranger and you did not welcome me, naked and you did not give me clothing, sick and in prison and you did not visit me.' [44] Then they also will answer, 'Lord, when was it that we saw you hungry or thirsty or a stranger or naked or sick or in prison and did not take care of you?' [45] Then he will answer them, 'Truly I tell you, just as you did not do it to one of the least of these, you did not do it to me.' [46] And these will go away into eternal punishment but the righteous into eternal life."

The gospel of the Lord. **Praise to you, O Christ.**
Please be seated.

Youth Time

Sermon

Hymn of the Day *"Borning Cry"* ELW **732**

Text and music © 1985 John C. Ylvisaker

1 "I was there to hear your borning cry,
I'll be there when you are old.
I rejoiced the day you were baptized
to see your life unfold.
I was there when you were but a child,
with a faith to suit you well;
in a blaze of light you wandered off
to find where demons dwell."

2 "When you heard the wonder of the Word
I was there to cheer you on;
you were raised to praise the living Lord,
to whom you now belong.
If you find someone to share your time
and you join your hearts as one,
I'll be there to make your verses rhyme
from dusk till rising sun."

3 "In the middle ages of your life,
not too old, no longer young,
I'll be there to guide you through the night,
complete what I've begun.
When the evening gently closes in
and you shut your weary eyes,
I'll be there as I have always been,
with just one more surprise."

4 "I was there to hear your borning cry,
I'll be there when you are old.
I rejoiced the day you were baptized
to see your life unfold."

The Apostles' Creed
I believe in God, the Father almighty,
creator of heaven and earth.
I believe in Jesus Christ, his 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.
e 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
**Or*, He descended to the dead.
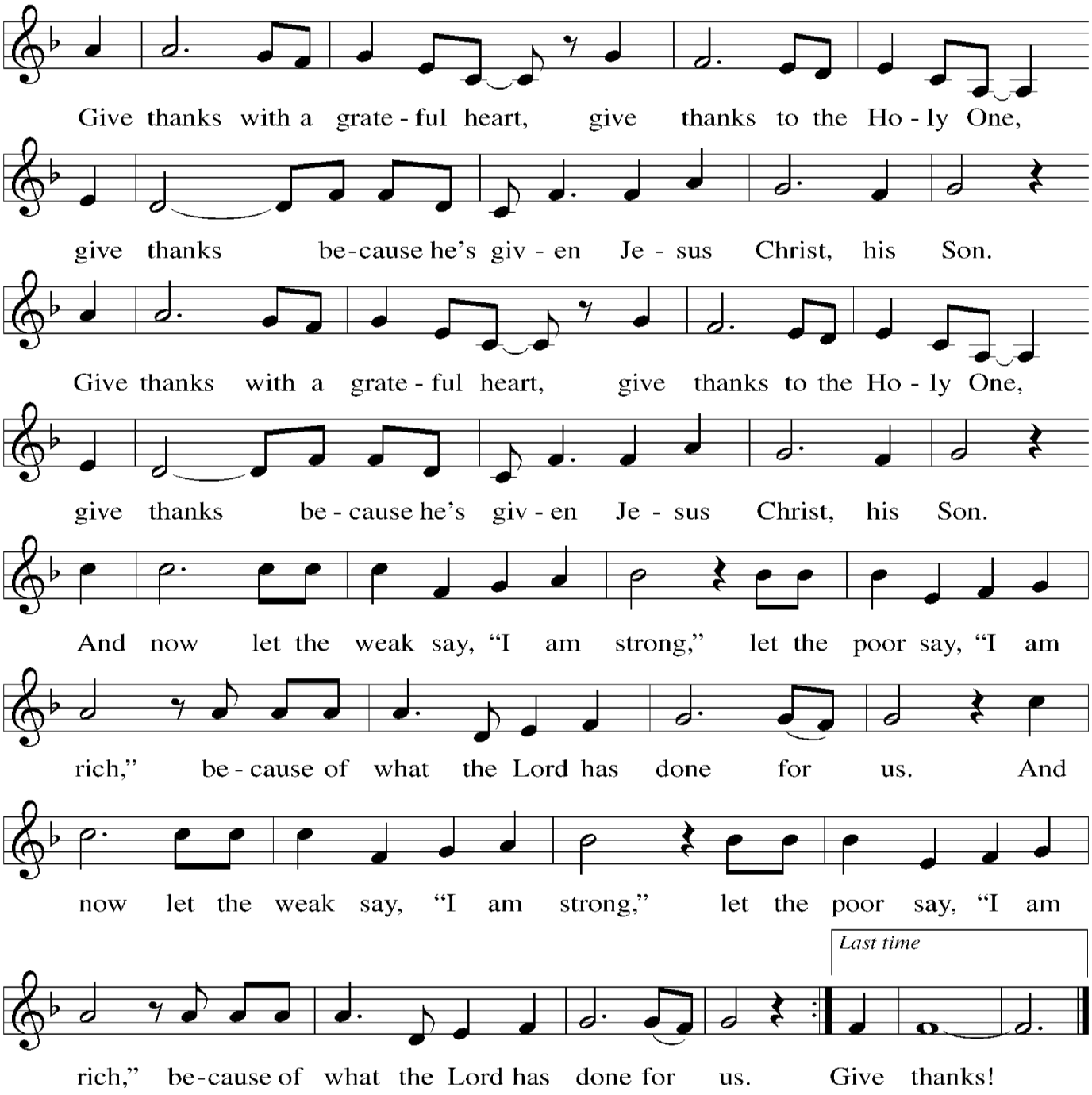
Prayers of the people:
Response: God, in your mercy **hear our prayer.**

Peace
The peace of the Lord be with you always.
And also with you.
Please be seated

Offering *"Borning Cry"*
Text and music © 1985 John C. Ylvisaker
Please stand if you are able

Offertory *"Give Thanks"*
Text and music © 1978 Integrity's Hosanna! Music/ASCAP. All Rights Reserved. International Copyright Secured.

Give Thanks



Text: Henry Smith

Offertory Prayer

Let us pray.

Wise and gracious God,

receive the labor of our hands—these gifts of money, bread, and wine—along with the offering of our lives. Nourish us with the life of your Son, that we might be his body in the world, making known your abundant mercy in Jesus Christ our 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.

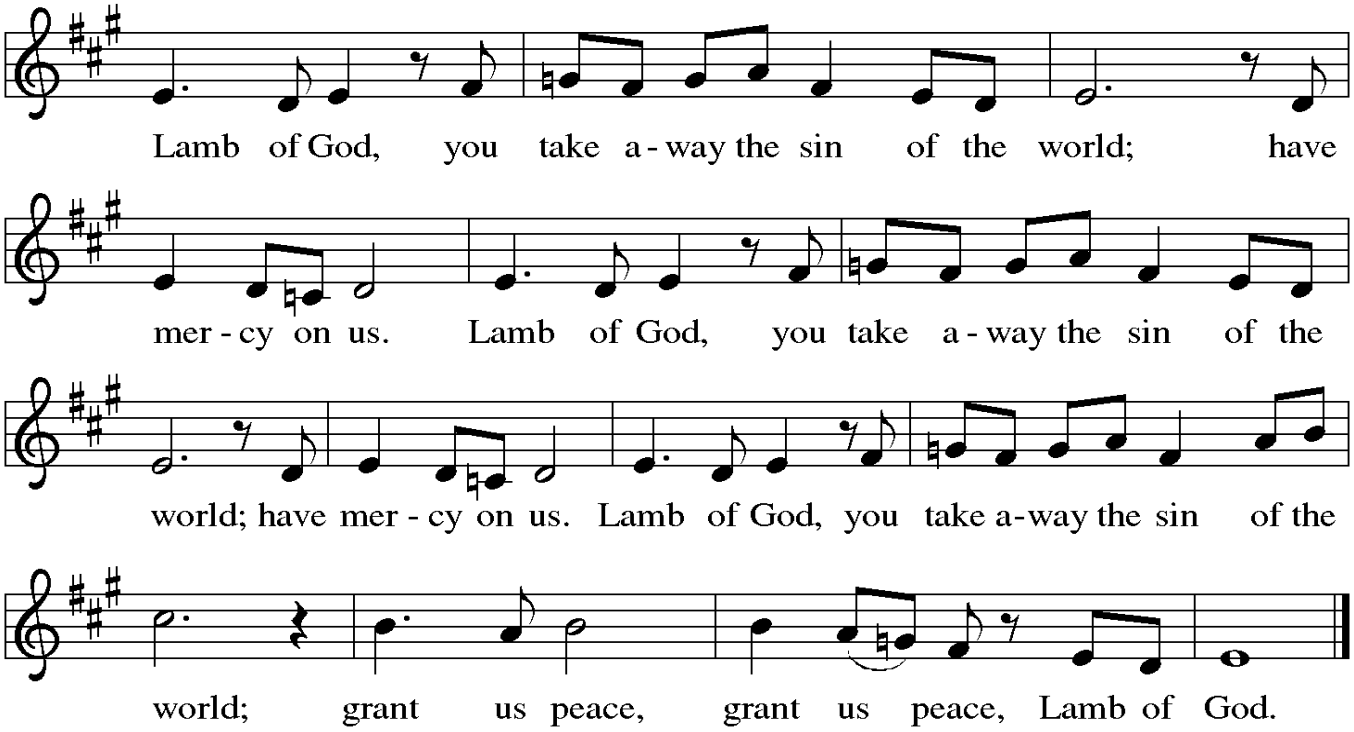
Prayer Of Thanksgiving
Blessed are you, Lord of heaven and earth, for you have had mercy on us and given your only-begotten Son that whoever believes in him should not perish but have eternal life. We give you thanks for the redemption you have prepared for us through Jesus Christ. Send your Holy Spirit into our hearts to establish in us a living faith and prepare us joyfully to receive our Redeemer who comes to us in his body and blood.

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.

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
Taste and see that the Lord is good.
Please be seated

Distribution



Distribution Hymn: *"For the Fruit of All Creation"* ELW **679**

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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.

2 In the just reward of labor,
God's will is done.
In the help we give our neighbor,
God's will is done.
In our worldwide task of caring
for the hungry and despairing,
in the harvests we are sharing,
God's will is done.

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.

Distribution Hymn: *"Blessing and Honor"* ELW **854**

Text: Horatius Bonar, 1808-1889, alt. Music: Matthias Keller, 1813-18751876 Public Domain

1 Blessing and honor and glory and pow'r,
wisdom and riches and strength evermore,
be to the Lamb who our battle has won,
whose are the kingdom, the crown,
and the throne;
whose are the kingdom, the crown,
and the throne!

2 Let all the heavens sound forth Jesus' name;
let all the earth sing his glory and fame.
Ocean and mountain, stream, forest, and flow'r
echo his praises and tell of his pow'r;
echo his praises and tell of his pow'r.

3 Ever ascending the song and the joy,
ever descending the love from on high;
blessing and honor and glory and praise--
this is the theme of the hymns that we raise;
this is the theme of the hymns that we raise.

4 Give we the glory and praise to the Lamb!
Take we the robe and the harp and the palm;
sing we the song of the Lamb who was slain,
dying in weakness and rising to reign;
dying in weakness and rising to reign!

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.

We give you thanks, almighty God, that you have refreshed us through the healing power of this gift of life; and we pray that in your mercy you would strengthen us, through this gift, in faith toward you and in fervent love toward one another; for the sake of Jesus Christ our Lord.

Amen.

Sending

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

Charge To The People

Go out into the world in peace;
Love the Lord your God with all your heart, with all your soul, with all your mind;
and love your neighbor as yourself.

Benediction

The Lord bless you and keep you.
The Lord make his face shine on you and be gracious to you.
The Lord look upon you with favor and ✢ give you peace.

Amen

Sending Hymn *"Rejoice, for Christ Is King!"* ELW **430**

Text: Charles Wesley, 1707–1788, alt. Music: William E. Fischer, 1849–1936 Public Domain

1 Rejoice, for Christ is king!
Your Lord and king adore;
rejoice, give thanks, and sing,
and triumph evermore:

Refrain
Lift up your heart, lift up your voice;
rejoice, again I say, rejoice!

2 Our Savior Jesus reigns,
the God of truth and love;
when he had purged our stains,
he took his seat above: Refrain

3 His kingdom cannot fail;
he rules o'er earth and heav'n;
the keys of death and hell
are to our Jesus giv'n: Refrain

4 He sits at God's right hand
till all his foes submit

and bow to his command
and fall beneath his feet: Refrain

Dismissal

Go in peace. Serve the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Postlude *"Rejoice, for Christ Is King!"*

Text: Charles Wesley, 1707–1788, alt. Music: William E. Fischer, 1849–1936 Public Domain

Join us for Hanging of the Greens and pizza fellowship!

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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 — Church: 419-625-2192
Pastor Stacy's Day Off – Friday — Cell: 419-680-0358
Mrs. Sandy Thompson, Secretary — 419-625-2192
E-mail: Sandy8110@gmail.com

Organist: Nathan Samsa
Usher: Ray Witt — Lay Reader: Melinda Zorn
Audio/Visual Tech: Brandon Alt — Communion Assistant: Melinda Zorn
Website: www.stjohnlcsandusky.com — Attendance: Att. Nov. 15 - 71
Like us on Facebook: St. John's Lutheran Church, Sandusky

2026 The Year of the Way of Love. "We love because he first loved us."
Bible Verse for *1 John 5:2–3*
"By this we know that we love the children of God, when we love God and obey his commandments. For the love of God is this, that we obey his commandments. And his commandments are not burdensome".

Council asks the congregation to pray that we prepare room in our hearts for Jesus.

Communion Clean-up today: Sue & Lynn Schlessman

Nov. 29 – Set-up – Elizabeth Libben — Clean-up – Sandy Thompson
Dec. 6 – Set-up – Paula Hoffman Laws — Clean-up – Paula
13 – Set-up – Jim Kluding — Clean-up – Jim
20 – Set-up – Joleen Dillender — Clean-up – Sue & Lynn Schlessman
24 – Set-up – Elizabeth Libben — Clean-up – Elizabeth
27 – No Communion Jt. Worship at Zion Huron

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

Happy Birthday to John Miller, Liam Young and Lisa Fryer.

St. John's oldest member, August Hohman, is now residing at the Bellevue Care Center. Please include him in your prayers.

The Giving Tree! St. John's will help with the needs of families in Erie County! Please have your gifts and supplies back by Sunday, Nov. 29th. Each package must have their **Name, Age, Gender and case worker initials**.

Youth Christmas Program Practice begins next Sunday, November 29th during the Sunday School hour. Practice begins at 9:15 am. Let Pastor Stacy know if your child wants to be part of the program. Youth Christmas program takes place on Sunday, December 13th at 10:30 am.

Readers Needed:

Advent Wreath Candle Lighting! Individuals, families are needed to help read and light the Advent wreath this Advent season. If you would like to help out, the sign-up sheet is at the rear of the sanctuary.

December 27th we will worship with Zion at **9 AM** for a service of lessons and carols. We need to provide six readers. Please let Pastor Stacy or Sandy know if you are able to read. Thank you!

Advent Worship Opportunities:

People, Look East is your Advent devotional for 2026. Paper copies are ready for you in the back of the sanctuary and at the handicap entrance. A link will be sent for you to access the daily Advent devotional online. This devotional is available from Luther Seminary.

Joint Advent Worship: The members of Zion Lutheran Church Huron will join us for worship on **Sunday, November 29th**. Following worship, we will have an Advent Party which will take place in the fellowship hall. Lunch will include a pasta bar with all the toppings. Games and crafts for the kids as well as fellowship time for the adults. **Please sign-up on the sheet at the back of the sanctuary.**

Blue Christmas Worship: Zion Lutheran Church, Sandusky is offering a Blue Christmas worship service, a service of Comfort, Hope, and Healing, on Monday, Dec. 21st at 7:00 pm. Christmas isn't joyful for everyone. For some, the holiday season brings grief, loneliness, illness, anxiety, or the absence of loved ones. If that is where you are, you are not alone. All are welcome!

Community Service Opportunities:

Salvation Army Bell-Ringing: Zion and St. John's will be ringing the bell at Cornell's on Saturday, December 5 from 9 am – 7 pm for the Salvation Army. If you would like to help ring the bell, please call Kris during Zion office hours and she will add your name to the list? Office hours are M-Th 9am-2pm. 419-433-4711 It's a first come first serve for time selection!

Christmas Trivia Contest: The Huron High School Key Club and the Edison High School Key Club are sponsoring a Christmas Trivia night at Zion Lutheran Church on Thursday, December 3rd. Profits earned by the joint Key Clubs will be donated to the Kiwanis International Children's Fund as a Christmas donation. A light dinner at 5:30 with contest to begin at 6 p.m. There will be 10 rounds of Christmas Trivia. Subjects will be Christmas carols, traditional and contemporary Christmas music, worldwide Christmas traditions, Holiday foods, Christmas folklore, colors and decorations of Advent, Christmas movies and Holiday TV specials. Cost is $5.00 per person. Teams can be made up of 4-8 people. If you are interested in being part of a St. John's team or 2 teams, let Pastor Stacy know.

New Year 2027 Opportunities:
Save the date! January 13th from 9:30 to Noon we will go to Second Harvest to learn about food insecurity and their important work. We will also help sort food.

Bible Study opportunity: Beginning in January, Pastor Stacy will do a monthly bible study on forgiveness. If you are interested, please let her know what days and times work best for you.

ST. JOHN'S CALENDAR FOR NOVEMBER 22ND THRU DECEMBER 6TH

Sunday, November 22	9:15 am 10:30 am 11:30 am	Adult Class with Lynn Worship Pizza Lunch and Hanging of the Greens
Thursday, November 26		**HAPPY THANKSGIVING**
Sunday, November 29	9:15 am 9:15 am 10:30 am 11:30 am	Adult Class with Lynn Sunday School Christmas Practice Jt. Advent Worship with Zion Huron at St. John's Fellowship Advent lunch and party

Tuesday, December 1	1:00 pm	Faith Life Team
Wednesday, December 2	12 noon 5:30 pm	Scripture and Prayer at Parkvue Choir Practice
Thursday, December 3	5:30 pm	Christmas Trivia at Zion Luth. Huron
Sunday, December 6	9:15 am 9:15 am 10:30 am	Adult Class with Lynn Sunday School Christmas Practice Worship

St. John's is selling T-shirts that say St John's. They need to be ordered by December 13th. Cost is $15. These are great for when we do service projects or field trips together. Please let Pastor Stacy know if you have any questions. **Colors: Steel Blue or Sage**
Sign-up sheet is at the back of the sanctuary.

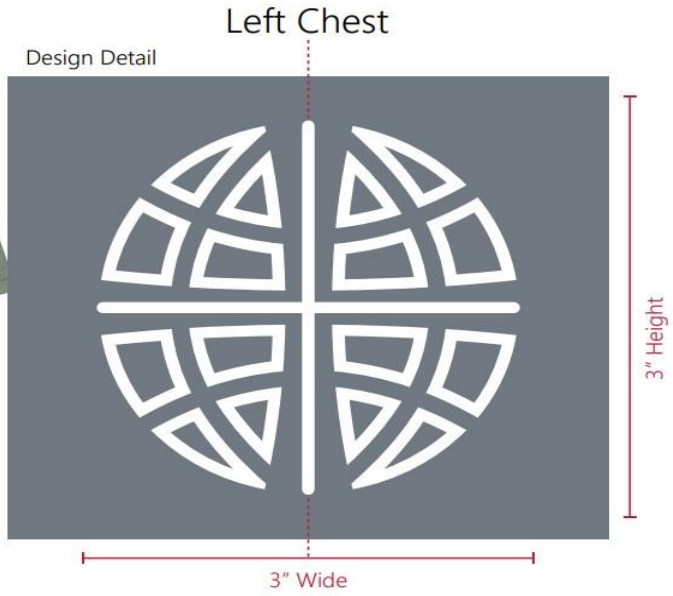
LARSEN GRAPHICS INC

Approx 2" From Collar



COMPANY	LOCATION	INK
St. John Evangelical Luthern Church	Front	White Underbase/White

Product: BELLA + CANVAS - Jersey Tee - 3001;
Color: Steel Blue, Sage;
Print Type: Plastisol



LARSEN GRAPHICS INC

Approx 3" From Collar



COMPANY	LOCATION	INK
St. John Evangelical Luthern Church	Back	White Underbase/White

Product: BELLA + CANVAS - Jersey Tee - 3001;
Color: Steel Blue, Sage;
Print Type: Plastisol

