

Welcome to Worship

at

St. John's Evangelical Lutheran Church
reconciling in Christ congregation



Twenty-Sixth Sunday after Pentecost

November 17, 2024

10:30 am

Interim Pastor: The Rev. Mike Button

Director of Music: Jessica Madow

330 Ferry Street; Easton, PA 18042-4500

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Statement of Welcome

*There is no longer Jew or Greek, there is no longer slave or free, there is no longer male and female;
for all of you are one in Christ Jesus. — Galatians 3:28*

As a community of God striving to be open to all people, we at St. John's Lutheran Congregation believe that the gospel is God's gift to all people, to be shared unconditionally. We welcome all to join us as we struggle to better understand the mysteries of God's teachings. We are challenged by Christ to care for, to love, to understand, and to listen to each other, regardless of race, age, gender, marital status, physical and mental abilities, sexual/affectional orientation, national origin, or economic status. We celebrate together our unity as God's people.

St. John's Lutheran Congregation is a place for each person to shine in their own unique gifts.

Statement of Mission

St. John's Lutheran Church is a downtown, community-oriented, congregation of Christians. We worship God, strive to welcome, and wholly accept everyone, and reach out with and in God's love.

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Communion is a time we invite all baptized Christians who believe that our Lord Jesus is truly present in the bread and wine of the Sacrament. If this is your belief, there are instructions to follow at the time of Communion later in the bulletin.

Service Notes:

- (asterisk) indicates, please stand as you are able.
- Page # indicates the front of the hymnal is used . . .
- Hymn # indicates the back of the Hymnal is used . . .

Hymn Book Abbreviations:

ELW – Evangelical Lutheran Worship Book
WOV – With One Voice
ACS – All Creation Sings

Gathering

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

Welcome

Prelude “*The Ash Grove*” arr. Anne Krentz Organ
(parts 1 & 2)
James Heck, violin

*Confession and Forgiveness

P: Blessed be the holy Trinity, † one God, our refuge, our delight, our beginning and our end.

C: Amen.

P: Let us come in truth before the one who loves us and has freed us from our sin.

(Silence is kept for reflection.)

P: Eternal One, robed in majesty and mercy,

C: We confess that sin has taken hold of us and we are complicit in its power. We are disturbed in spirit and our hearts cannot rest. Unbind us and set us free. Lead us again to the waters of rebirth, that we may live just and generous lives for the good of your world and the care of our neighbors, following in the servant way of Jesus. Amen.

P: These words are trustworthy and true: Christ bore our sins once, for all, on the cross, swallowing up death forever.

For his sake, you are † forgiven and God remembers your sin no more. Let your heart be glad again and rejoice in your salvation.

C: Amen.

***Gathering Hymn**

ELW # 870 *“We Praise You, O God”*

***Greeting**

- page 147

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.**

***Kyrie**

- page 147

***Canticle of Praise**

“Glory to God . . .”

- page 148

***Prayer of the Day**

A: Let us pray. Almighty God, your sovereign purpose brings salvation to birth. Give us faith to be steadfast amid the tumults of this world, trusting that your kingdom comes, and your will is done through your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

C: **Amen**

Children's Chat

Word

God speaks to us in scripture reading, preaching, and song.

First Reading

Daniel 12:1-3

¹ “At that time Michael, the great prince, the protector of your people, shall arise. There shall be a time of anguish, such as has never occurred since nations first came into existence. But at that time your people shall be delivered, everyone who is found written in the book. ² Many of those who sleep in the dust of the earth shall awake, some to everlasting life, and some to shame and everlasting contempt. ³ Those who are wise shall shine like the brightness of the sky, and those who lead many to righteousness, like the stars forever and ever.”

A: The Word of the Lord.

C: Thanks be to God.

Responsive Reading:

Psalm 16

¹ Protect me, O God, for I take refuge in you;
I have said to the Lord, “You are my Lord, my good above all other.”

² **All my delight is in the godly that are in the land,
upon those who are noble among the people.**

³ But those who run after other gods
shall have their troubles multiplied.

⁴ **I will not pour out drink offerings to such gods,
never take their names upon my lips.**

⁵ O Lord, you are my portion and my cup;
it is you who uphold my lot.

⁶ **My boundaries enclose a pleasant land;
indeed, I have a rich inheritance.**

⁷ I will bless the Lord who gives me counsel;
my heart teaches me night after night.

⁸ **I have set the Lord always before me;
because God is at my right hand, I shall not be shaken.**

⁹ My heart, therefore, is glad, and my spirit rejoices;
my body also shall | rest in hope.

¹⁰ **For you will not abandon me to the grave,
nor let your holy one see the pit.**

¹¹ You will show me the path of life;
in your presence there is fullness of joy, and in your right hand are
pleasures forevermore.

Second Reading

Hebrews 10:11-14 [15-18] 19-25

¹¹ Every priest stands day after day at his service, offering again
and again the same sacrifices that can never take away sins. ¹² But
when Christ had offered for all time a single sacrifice for sins, “he
sat down at the right hand of God,” ¹³ and since then has been
waiting “until his enemies would be made a footstool for his feet.”

¹⁴For by a single offering he has perfected for all time those who are sanctified. ¹⁵And the Holy Spirit also testifies to us, for after saying,

¹⁶“This is the covenant that I will make with them after those days, says the Lord: I will put my laws in their hearts, and I will write them on their minds,” ¹⁷he also adds,

“I will remember their sins and their lawless deeds no more.”

¹⁸Where there is forgiveness of these, there is no longer any offering for sin.]

¹⁹Therefore, my friends, since we have confidence to enter the sanctuary by the blood of Jesus, ²⁰by the new and living way that he opened for us through the curtain (that is, through his flesh), ²¹and since we have a great priest over the house of God, ²²let us approach with a true heart in full assurance of faith, with our hearts sprinkled clean from an evil conscience and our bodies washed with pure water. ²³Let us hold fast to the confession of our hope without wavering, for he who has promised is faithful. ²⁴And let us consider how to provoke one another to love and good deeds, ²⁵not neglecting to meet together, as is the habit of some, but encouraging one another, and all the more as you see the Day approaching.

A: The Word of the Lord.

C: Thanks be to God.

***Gospel Acclamation**

“Alleluia”

- page 151

* Gospel

Mark 13:1-8

P: The Holy Gospel according to Mark, the 13th chapter.

C: Glory to you, O Lord.

¹ As [Jesus] came out of the temple, one of his disciples said to him, “Look, Teacher, what large stones and what large buildings!”

² Then Jesus asked him, “Do you see these great buildings? Not one stone will be left here upon another; all will be thrown down.”

³ When he was sitting on the Mount of Olives opposite the temple, Peter, James, John, and Andrew asked him privately, ⁴ “Tell us, when will this be, and what will be the sign that all these things are about to be accomplished?” ⁵ Then Jesus began to say to them, “Beware that no one leads you astray. ⁶ Many will come in my name and say, ‘I am he!’ and they will lead many astray.

⁷ When you hear of wars and rumors of wars, do not be alarmed; this must take place, but the end is still to come. ⁸ For nation will rise against nation, and kingdom against kingdom; there will be earthquakes in various places; there will be famines. This is but the beginning of the birth pangs.”

P: The Gospel of the Lord.

C: Praise to you, O Christ.

Sermon — The Reverend Mike Button

*Hymn of the Day

ELW # 785 “*When Peace like a River*”

**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, who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died, and was buried; he descended to the dead.* On the third day he rose again; he ascended into heaven, he is seated at the right hand of the Father, and he will come 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.

**Prayers of Intercession*

A: Let us pray. O God, in the washing of water you set us free from the power of sin and death. Unite all the baptized in the covenant you have made with us, as we strive for your justice and peace in all the earth. Merciful God,

C: Receive our prayer.

A: By your merciful might you sustain all creation. Stir us from complacency with the harm we inflict on the earth and urge us to adopt sustainable ways of life that protect and restore our planet. Merciful God,

C: Receive our prayer.

A: With a selfless power you protect all who take refuge in you. As nations rise against nations, defend all who are displaced or affected by war or violence. Empower all people and nations to pursue peace. Merciful God,

C: Receive our prayer.

A: In your presence you give fullness of joy. Care for all for whom joy feels distant. Be present with persons experiencing depression, anxiety, addiction, or any mental illness. Bring healing and wholeness to all, including *those we mention on our prayer list . . . and those we name aloud or silently in our hearts . . .* Merciful God,

C: Receive our prayer.

A: Through the years you have gathered your church and this community for worship, fellowship, formation, and service. Enable us to look beyond the walls of our building to perceive where you are calling us forward. Merciful God,

C: Receive our prayer.

Here other intercessions may be offered.

A: With thanksgiving we saints and angels who delight in your everlasting presence. As their lives inspire ours, provoke us always to love, holding fast to the confession of our hope in you. Merciful God,

C: Receive our prayer.

A: We offer our prayers to you, gracious God, trusting in your boundless love for all that you have made, through Jesus Christ our Savior.

C: Amen

*** The Sharing of the Peace**

P: The peace of Christ be with you always.

C: And also with you.

Meal

God feeds us with the presence of Jesus Christ.

(Ushers now proceed to the Altar to receive the offering plates...)

Offertory *“The Ash Grove”* arr. Anne Krentz Organ
(parts 3 & 4)
James Heck, violin

***Presentation of Gifts** *(Ushers now bring the offering plates forward.)*

***Offertory Hymn** *(following page)*

ELW# 531 ***“The Trumpets Sound, the Angels Sing”***

1 The trum - pets sound, the an - gels sing, the feast is
 read - y to be - gin. The gates of heav'n are o - pen wide,
 and Je - sus wel - comes you in - side.

Refrain
 Sing with thank - ful - ness songs of pure de - light.
 Come and rev - el in heav - en's love and light.
 Take your place at the ta - ble of the King.
 The feast is read - y to be - gin;

*Offertory Prayer

A: Let us pray. Lord Jesus, our portion and our cup, you offered yourself in love for the world, and in this meal, you nourish us with your life. Fill us with your abundance, that we may feed the hungry and welcome the stranger, trusting in your name.

C: Amen

***Great Thanksgiving** - page 152

*** Preface** (*Leader continues . . .*)

***Holy, Holy, Holy** - page 153

***Thanksgiving at the Table** (*Leader continues . . .*)

***Lord's Prayer** - page 154

***Lamb of God** - page 154

***Invitation to Communion** - page 154

Holy Communion - *If you are baptized and believe that it is the real blood and body of Christ, we welcome you at the Lord's table.*

**At the invitation of the usher, please proceed to the front to receive communion. Communion is also available in your pew, please let an usher know. Gluten free wafers and grape juice are available upon request.*

Communion Hymns

ELW # 474 ***“Bread of Life from Heaven”***

ELW # 478 ***“Father, We Thank You”***

ELW # 477 ***“I Received the Living God”***

*Table Blessing

*Post Communion Hymn

ELW# 207 *“Thankful Hearts . . .”*



Thank-ful hearts and voic-es raise; tell ev-'ry-one what God has done. Let



ev - 'ry-one who seeks the Lord re - joice and bear the name of Christ.



Send us with your prom - is - es and lead your peo - ple forth in joy with



shouts of thanks - giv - ing. Al - le-lu - ia, al - le-lu - ia.

*Prayer after Communion

A: Let us pray. Faithful God, you have spread before us a feast of rich food and drink in the body and blood of your Son. Now send us out to labor with you, in service to the world you have made, and among the people you have made your home, in Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

C: Amen.

Sending

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

Announcements

*Blessing

P: The Ancient One, enthroned, the Crucified One, now risen, the Indwelling One, poured out, † bless you now and forever.

C: Amen.

*Sending Hymn

ELW # 723 *“Canticle of the Turning”*

*Dismissal

P: Go in peace. Encourage one another in Christ.

C: Thanks be to God.

Postlude

Thank you to our Worship Volunteers . . .

Worship Assistant–Chris Orem

Ushers – Bob & Cindy Black

Reader – Charlie Hanson

Altar Guild – Judi Kalapay & Linda Kalapay

Video Team – Brad Thomas

This Week at St. John's November 17th – November 24th

Today (11/17/24) – Twenty-sixth Sunday after Pentecost, 10:30 am

Today (11/17/24) – Following Worship: Property – Office

Monday (11/18/24) – No Choir Today

Friday (11/22/24) – Newsletter Folding, 9:30 am, Gallery

Sunday (11/24/24) – Sunday School / Adult Forum – 9:00 am

Sunday (11/24/24) – Christ the King / Harvest Home Sunday, 10:30 am

Sunday (11/24/24) – Following Worship: Rachel's Circle

Week 45, 11/10/24 - Attendance: 54

Last Sunday's Envelope / Plate Offering	\$1,778.00
Weekly amount needed to reach our Budget:	\$2,126.00
Year to Date Envelope / Plate Offering:	\$91,921.00
Behind Budget	-\$3,749.00

Thank you Jim Heck For sharing your
special music with us today.



Prayer Concerns: Chuck, Clark, Don, Joe, Kara, Christine, Bill, Michael, Shelley, Jan, Paula, George, Matt, Carolyn, Charles, Julia, John, Kirk, Donald, Terry, Lenny, Emily, Bill, Mary, Jim, Shirley, Jeff, Karla, Debbie, Pastor Orem, Peggy, Tony, Joan, Karen, Our Homebound Family and Friends, the St. John's Call Committee, our Future Pastor, and the family and friends of William M. Calloway III and Shirley Edwards.

**Call to Artists . . . The Gallery at St. John's
"Holiday Show" December 1st–December 22nd, 2024**



**The gallery is accepting works in any medium including:
Photography, Fine Art, Fine Art Crafts, and Visual Articulation.
The theme need not be Holiday related.**

**Registration Deadline: Friday, November 22nd
Registration forms can be found: In the Gallery,
or on our website @:
www.stjohnseaston.org/ministries/gallery/**

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- 1. "The Trumpets Sound, the Angels Sing" (ELW #531, Text & Music: Graham Kendrick © 1989 Make Way Music, admin. by Music Services in the Western Hemisphere.)*
- 2. "Bread of Life from Heaven" (ELW #474, Text: Susan Briehl; Music: Argentine trad., refrain Marty Haugen; Text and music © 2001 by GIA Publications, Inc.)*
- 3. "Father, We Thank You" (ELW #478, Text: Didache, 2nd cent.; para. F. Bland Tucker, 1895–1984, alt. © Church Pension Fund; Music: attr. Louis Bourgeois, 1510–1561.)*
- 4. "Canticle of the Turning" (ELW #723, Text: Rory Cooney © 1990 GIA Publications, Inc.; Music: Irish Traditional.)*

Remaining music is from the public domain.

Harvest Home / Thanksgiving



With the spirit of Thanksgiving in our hearts, during the month of November, please bring non-perishable food items to be placed on the Altar and then donated to the St. John's Blessing Box & The Project Food Pantry.

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The Lord will indeed give what is good, and our land will yield its harvest.

—Psalm 85:12



"The true light, which gives light to everyone, was coming into the world."

John 1:9

Midweek Advent Worship:

*Join us for a light Soup Supper at 6:00 pm,
followed by Worship at 7:00 pm*

December 4th—Arndt's Lutheran Church

December 11th—St. Paul's Third Lutheran Church

December 18th—St. Andrew's Lutheran Church



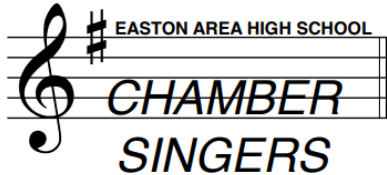
For your Information:



*Congregational Meeting Date change to:
December 8th, 2024 – Following Worship
Hope to see you at this important event.*

Adult Forum: For All the Saints!

Come explore some of the exceptional believers who have shaped our life together in Christ. Sunday mornings, 9:00 a.m. in the Chapel.



Present:

“A Christmas Celebration”

7:00 PM, Saturday, December 14, 2024
at

St. John's Evangelical Lutheran Church
330 Ferry St., Easton, PA 18042

(A free-will offering will be taken)

Come enjoy the sounds of the season!



***St. John's is looking for
Volunteers to visit
Our Homebound Members
this Holiday Season.***

*St. John's has 10 Homebound Members and
is looking for 5 volunteers to visit 2
members each.*

***Why not let our members be
Thankful for "You" ! and let
"You" be the gift they cherish this year.***

Lutheran Disaster Response

The situation:

Hurricanes continue to hit the coast of Florida, dropping heavy rains on the southeastern United States and leaving millions of people without power. As the storms move inland, it has caused dangerous flooding and landslides, as well as downed trees and power lines.

Our response:

Lutheran Disaster Response works with its partners to provide immediate relief, such as water, food, clothing, and other needs. Since many hurricanes also require a long-term response, Lutheran Disaster Response provides support on the long road to recovery with disaster case management, construction management, attention to unmet needs, and emotional and spiritual care.

What you can do: Pray

Please pray for the safety of communities impacted by hurricanes, including people in their paths and any emergency services personnel who are responding. May God's healing presence give them peace and hope in their time of need. Pray that God will deliver comfort to those who mourn and strength to those working diligently to rescue survivors.

Give:

Your gifts will support disaster-impacted communities. Gifts to "Hurricane Response" will be used in full (100%) to assist those affected by hurricanes, until the response is complete.

Mail your donation:

Make checks payable to: Lutheran Disaster Response
Evangelical Lutheran Church in America
ELCA Gift Processing Center
P.O. Box 1809
Merrifield, VA 22116-8009

Or put your donation in the offering plate marked "Hurricane"