

St. John Evangelical Lutheran Church
229 South Broad Street
Jersey Shore, PA 17740
570-398-1676

Sunday, November 5, 2023
All Saints Sunday
23rd Sunday after Pentecost



Children's Church will meet upstairs in the youth Sunday School room at end of the hallway at 9:30 a.m. Please take your child there before worship begins.

Introduction to the day

All Saints celebrates the baptized people of God, living and dead, who are the body of Christ. As November heralds the dying of the landscape in many northern regions, the readings and liturgy call us to remember all who have died in Christ and whose baptism is complete. At the Lord's table we gather with the faithful of every time and place, trusting that the promises of God will be fulfilled and that all tears will be wiped away in the new Jerusalem.

SHARING OUR JOYS AND CONCERNS

PRELUDE

GATHERING

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

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

Blessed be the holy Trinity, † one God,
in whose image we are made,
who claims us and calls us beloved.

Amen.

Silence is kept for reflection.

Holy One,
we confess that we are not awake for you.
We are not faithful in using your gifts.
We forget the least of our siblings.
We do not see your beautiful image in one another.
We are infected by sin
that divides your beloved community.
Open our hearts to your coming,
open our eyes to see you in our neighbor,
open our hands to serve your creation.

Amen.

Beloved, we are God's children,
and Jesus, our Beloved, opens the door to us.
Through † Jesus you are forgiven,

by Jesus you are welcome,
in Jesus you are called to rejoice!
Let us live in the promises prepared for us
from the foundation of the world.
Amen.

GATHERING SONG: *Shall We Gather at the River* 423

GREETING

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.

HYMN OF PRAISE: *Jerusalem, My Happy Home* 628

LITANY FOR THE SAINTS:

P: Let us remember with thanksgiving those who have gone before us with the sign of faith. He gave them new life through Jesus Christ in Holy Baptism and nourished them in the company of all God's people in the Eucharist, and in God's great mercy has summoned them to His presence so that they may continue in joyful service forever. O Lord Most High, we give thanks for all your saints, especially the following saints who have departed from this earthly life this past year:

Candace Louise Welshans	3/10/2023	David Mitchell	4/14/2023
Jack Rishel	5/1/2023	Mary Jane Zinn	7/22/2023
Nancy Ott Wolfe	8/28/2023	Elsie Parks	10/26/23

You are invited to come forward and light a candle in remembrance of the Saints Triumphant.

PRAYER OF THE DAY

P: Let us pray.

Almighty God, you have knit your people together in one communion in the mystical body of your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord. Grant us grace to follow your blessed saints in lives of faith and commitment, and to know the inexpressible joys you have prepared for those who love you, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

The assembly is seated.

WORD

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

L: A reading from Revelations

FIRST READING: Revelation 7:9-17

The book of Revelation is written to seven churches in western Asia Minor during a time of great oppression. Today's reading is a response to the question asked in 6:17: "Who is able to stand?" The writer gives the faithful the assurance of God's protection and a vision of victory.

⁹After this I looked, and there was a great multitude that no one could count, from every nation, from all tribes and peoples and languages, standing before the throne and before the Lamb, robed in white, with palm branches in their hands. ¹⁰They cried out in a loud voice, saying,

"Salvation belongs to our God who is seated on the throne, and to the Lamb!"

¹¹And all the angels stood around the throne and around the elders and the four living creatures, and they fell on their faces before the throne and worshiped God, ¹²singing,

“Amen! Blessing and glory and wisdom
and thanksgiving and honor
and power and might
be to our God forever and ever! Amen.”

¹³Then one of the elders addressed me, saying, “Who are these, robed in white, and where have they come from?” ¹⁴I said to him, “Sir, you are the one that knows.” Then he said to me, “These are they who have come out of the great ordeal; they have washed their robes and made them white in the blood of the Lamb.

¹⁵For this reason they are before the throne of God,
and worship him day and night within his temple,
and the one who is seated on the throne will shelter them.

¹⁶They will hunger no more, and thirst no more;
the sun will not strike them,
nor any scorching heat;

¹⁷for the Lamb at the center of the throne will be their shepherd,
and he will guide them to springs of the water of life,
and God will wipe away every tear from their eyes.”

L: The word of the Lord.

C: Thanks be to God.

L Let us read the Psalm responsively by verse

Psalm: Psalm 34:1-10, 22

¹I will bless the LORD at all times;
the praise of God shall ever be in my mouth.

**²I will glory in the LORD;
let the lowly hear and rejoice.**

³Proclaim with me the greatness of the LORD;
let us exalt God’s name together.

**⁴I sought the LORD, who answered me
and delivered me from all my terrors.**

⁵Look upon the LORD and be radiant,
and let not your faces be ashamed.

**⁶I called in my affliction, and the LORD heard me
and saved me from all my troubles.**

⁷The angel of the LORD encamps around those who fear the LORD
and delivers them.

**⁸Taste and see that the LORD is good;
happy are they who take refuge in God!**

⁹Fear the LORD, you saints of the LORD,
for those who fear the LORD lack nothing.

**¹⁰The lions are in want and suffer hunger,
but those who seek the LORD lack nothing that is good.**

²²O LORD, you redeem the life of your servants,
and those who put their trust in you will not be punished.

L: A reading from First John

Second Reading: 1 John 3:1-3

A saint is one who has been set apart by God for God's purposes. God, out of divine love, set us apart to be the children of God. Our holy hope is that we shall see God as God really is.

¹See what love the Father has given us, that we should be called children of God; and that is what we are. The reason the world does not know us is that it did not know him. ²Beloved, we are God's children now; what we will be has not yet been revealed. What we do know is this: when he is revealed, we will be like him, for we will see him as he is. ³And all who have this hope in him purify themselves, just as he is pure.

L: The word of the Lord.

C: Thanks be to God.

The assembly stands.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION p.142

Alleluia Lord to whom shall we go?

You have the words of eternal life. Alleluia, Alleluia.

P: The holy gospel according to Matthew

C: Glory to you, O Lord.

GOSPEL: Matthew 5:1-12

In the Beatitudes, Jesus provides a unique description of those who are blessed with God's favor. His teaching is surprising and shocking to those who seek wealth, fame, and control over others.

¹When Jesus saw the crowds, he went up the mountain; and after he sat down, his disciples came to him. ²Then he began to speak, and taught them, saying:

³“Blessed are the poor in spirit, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.

⁴“Blessed are those who mourn, for they will be comforted.

⁵“Blessed are the meek, for they will inherit the earth.

⁶“Blessed are those who hunger and thirst for righteousness, for they will be filled.

⁷“Blessed are the merciful, for they will receive mercy.

⁸“Blessed are the pure in heart, for they will see God.

⁹“Blessed are the peacemakers, for they will be called children of God.

¹⁰“Blessed are those who are persecuted for righteousness' sake, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.

¹¹“Blessed are you when people revile you and persecute you and utter all kinds of evil against you falsely on my account. ¹²Rejoice and be glad, for your reward is great in heaven, for in the same way they persecuted the prophets who were before you.”

P: The gospel of the Lord.

C: Praise to you, O Christ.

The assembly is seated.

SERMON

The assembly stands.

**HYMN OF THE DAY: *Canticle of the Turning* 723
THE 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.**

PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

A: Let us turn our hearts to God, our breath and life, as we pray for the church, the world, and all who are in need.

A brief silence.

Holy God, the church triumphant gathers around your throne to praise you. We join them in worship and remember your sustaining grace in every generation. Heal our divisions; show us unity in your presence. Hear us, O God.

C: Your mercy is great.

A: Holy creator, we marvel at your creation revealed in the cycle of seasons, changing landscapes, and the rise and fall of ocean tides. Turn us from selfish consumption and open us to gentle healing of the earth so all creation thrives. Hear us, O God.

C: Your mercy is great.

A: Holy advocate, we lift grateful hearts for the ability to vote and elect leaders. Grant wisdom to those who will be elected and safety to poll workers. May civic leaders serve the whole community, especially all who are underrepresented or oppressed. Hear us, O God.

C: Your mercy is great.

C: Holy healer, bless the brokenhearted and all who mourn. Send your compassion to all who grieve, grant wholeness to those who are sick, and accompany the dying. Be near to all who need you (*especially*). Hear us, O God.

C: Your mercy is great.

A: Holy comforter, we pray for this congregation, that the promise of your new life may be shared and experienced. We pray for the funeral ministry of this congregation, that families and friends seeking your love find it here. Hear us, O God.

C: Your mercy is great.

A: Lord of all, we ask for blessings to our Liberia missionaries – Pastor Brian Palmer and Pastor Linda Johnson Seyenkulo. We thank you for their faithful teaching to lay ministers at Louis T. Bower Lay Leader and Minister Training Center as they prepare for church service. Hear us, O God.

C: Your mercy is great.

Here other intercessions may be offered.

A: Holy One, for the saints who now rest in your mercy, we give you thanks. We remember their witness of faithfulness and love. (*Here the names of those who have died in the previous year may be read.*) Praise to you for the eternal life they have been given through Jesus Christ. Hear us, O God.

C: Your mercy is great.

P: We offer our spoken prayers and those held in our hearts trusting in your mercy; through Jesus Christ our Savior and Lord.

Amen.

The assembly is seated.

CHOIR ANTHEM *Bound for the Gospel Land*

A TIME OF SILENT MEDITATION

The assembly stands.

OFFERING PRAYER

A: God of all goodness, generations have turned to you, gathered around your table, and shared your abundant blessings. Number us among them that, as we gather these gifts from your abundance, and give thanks for your rich blessings, we may feast upon your very self and care for all that you have made, through Jesus Christ, our Sovereign and Servant.

Amen.

GREAT THANKSGIVING P.144 (*in the beginning of the hymnal*)

Dialogue

Holy Holy Holy

THANKSGIVING AT THE TABLE

Words of Institution

THE LORD'S PRAYER *P 145 (in the beginning of the hymnal)*

INVITATION TO COMMUNION

P: There is a place for you at the banquet.
Come and feast at Jesus' table.

COMMUNION

When giving the bread and cup, the communion ministers say
The body of Christ, given for you.
The blood of Christ, shed for you.
and each person may respond **Amen.**

Communion Song *Lamb of God You Take Away p.146*

SONG AFTER COMMUNION *Jesus, Name Above All Names*

(repeat twice)

*Jesus, name above all names, beautiful Savior, glorious Lord,
Emmanuel, God is with us, blessed Redeemer, living Word*

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

A Lord Jesus, in this simple meal you have set a banquet.
Sustain us on the journey,
strengthen us to care for the least of your beloved children,
and give us glad and generous hearts as we meet you on the way.
Amen.

SENDING

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

BLESSING

May the God of all creation,
in whose image we are made,
who claims us and calls us beloved,
who strengthens us for service,
give you reason to rejoice and be glad!
The blessing of God,
Sovereign, ✝ Savior, and Spirit,
be with you today and always. **Amen.**

SENDING SONG: *Oh, When the Saints Go Marching In ACS 950*

DISMISSAL P: Beloved of God,
go in peace to love and serve the Lord.

C: Thanks be to God.

Oh, When the Saints Go Marching In



1 Oh, when the saints go march - ing in, oh, when the
 2 Oh, when the Lord in glo - ry comes, oh, when the
 3 Oh, when the new world is re - vealed, oh, when the
 4 Oh, when they gath - er round the throne, oh, when they
 5 And on that hal - le - lu - jah day, and on that



saints go march - ing in, O Lord, I want to be in that
 Lord in glo - ry comes, O Lord, I want to be in that
 new world is re - vealed, O Lord, I want to be in that
 gath - er round the throne, O Lord, I want to be in that
 hal - le - lu - jah day, O Lord, I want to be in that



num - ber when the saints go march - ing in.
 num - ber when the Lord in glo - ry comes.
 num - ber when the new world is re - vealed.
 num - ber when they gath - er round the throne.
 num - ber on that hal - le - lu - jah day.

Text: African American spiritual
 Music: WHEN THE SAINTS, African American spiritual

We extend our sympathies to the family of Elsie Parks who died on October 26, 2023. Her Memorial Service will be Friday, November 10. Visitation will be from 6-7 then a short, simple service, followed by light refreshments.

Announcements

We welcome our visitors and ask that you sign a Visitor Attendance and Holy Communion Card that is located in the pew rack. We ask that cards be returned via the offering plate during the receiving of the offering. We practice "open Communion" here at St. John meaning that all who believe in the "real presence" of Christ are welcomed to receive the Sacrament of Holy Communion. We offer two choices for Holy Communion, wine or grape juice. Those worshipers desiring grape juice are asked at the communion rail to place their right

hand over their heart after receiving “The Body of Christ.”

Remember in prayer: Rowan Aldridge, Jim Allen, Christine and Dave Barner, Linda Caris, Agnes Cryder, Don & Helen Delaney, Mary Ellen Dougherty, Joanne Fisher, Dawn Fryer, Dina George, Dawn Hauser, Barb Hoffman, Mick Miller, Bob Moriarity, Cora Pelletier, Shane Snyder, and all of our shut-ins.

We also remember in prayer Family Promise; Presiding Bishop Elizabeth Eaton – ELCA; Bishop Craig A. Miller - USS; for our Companion Synods in Liberia and Ansbach-Wurzburg, Germany, and for peace in Ukraine and Israel.

We pray for the safety of our military troops around the world including Mark Baier, Isaac Boring, Jade Cordrey, Ben Cramer, Trevor and Nehemiah Eberhart, Patrick Hamlin, Paul Laidacker, Steven Moore, Maddison Myers, Tyler O’Neal, Adam Shaffer, Jeremy and Haley Naugle Sorrell, Richie Speicher, Aaron Stabley, Paul St. James, Kevin Titus, and Jenna White. We also lift up in prayer their families who strive to keep a normalcy in the family and continue on often with added stress.

Special thanks to this weeks’ helpers: Lector –Kathy Brundick; Assisting Ministers -- Deb Heydrich and Ron Brundick; Head Usher –Dawn McCloskey; Teller – Shane Snyder; Bulletin Sponsor – Sue Willits; Children's Church -- Molly Hollick; Flowers-- Carl.

Next week’s helpers: Lector —Darlene Bilby; Assisting Ministers—Bill Ely and Ken Dougherty; Head Usher –Dawn McCloskey; Teller – Shane Snyder; Bulletin Sponsor – Sue Willits; Children's Church -- Pam Wehler; Flowers -- Ashley Shields.

The flowers are to the glory of God and in loving memory of our brother, C. William Marks in remembrance of his November birthday . Love Mick Carl, Kathy, and family.

The Sanctuary Candle in November is in memory of my father by Sue Willits.

All Saints Sunday, November 5, 2023 we will be remembering

Candace Louise Welshans	3/10/2023	David Mitchell	4/14/2023
Jack Rishel	5/1/2023	Mary Jane Zinn	7/22/2023
Nancy Ott Wolfe	8/28/2023	Elsie Parks	10/26/23

The Lutheran Church Women’s Prayer Chain is a vital ministry of St. John Lutheran. Anyone in need of prayers is asked to contact any of the following persons Gloria Ely – 570-873-3597 Joyce Braucht - 570-398-2852

An **ENORMOUS THANK YOU** the Fairplay Brass. They donated the \$235 which was received in the basket collection to the Pastor's Discretionary Fund to assist those in need. We thank them for their donation and their contribution of music to our Reformation Sunday.

Seafarer’s Bags , our very own Pastor Martha McCracken was on the board of Seafarer’s International and served as their president, were collected with possibly a new record of 33. Good work!!

This bulletin and more can be found on our church website: www.stjl.org.

WOMEN OF THE CHURCH. A meeting is also planned for **Sunday, November 19.**

Ever have thoughts of being a missionary? Of serving in a ministry in another country for a short time period? We welcome all of our Middle School and High School Youth to join us on **Sunday, November 19** for lunch and a presentation by Claire Weisner who served as a Young Adult in Global Missions in Argentina/Uruguay. Claire is from Trinity Lutheran, Milton, and will speak about her experiences providing ministry in two other countries. I'm sure there will be room if adults would like to join us. I'm setting up a Zoom meeting so if you cannot attend and want to join by zoom, contact Pastor Aucker. I would like to see all eighty of our youth attend.

SAVE THE DATE!! Christmas Bazaar will be Saturday, December 9.

CHRISTMAS EVE at 10 o'clock there is a half hour of **special music**. If you would like to perform and share your talent, please see organist Becky Ward.

Calendar

TURN YOUR CLOCKS BACK!!

Sunday, November 5, 2023 All Saints Sunday

Fall CASH SUNDAY

8:30 a.m. Adult Sunday School

9:30 a.m. Worship Service with Children's Church

Monday, November 6, 2023 10:00 a.m. Bible Study **postponed** until Nov. 13

Tuesday, November 7, 2023 1:30 p.m. Communion at JS Rehabilitation

6:00 p.m. Council Meeting

Wednesday, November 8, 2023 6:30 p.m. Choir Rehearsal

Thursday, November 9, 2023 4:00 p.m. Pack Boxes

Friday, November 10, 2023 9:00 a.m. - 1:00 p.m. Food Distribution

6:00-8:00 p.m. Memorial Gathering for Elsie Parks in Sunday School room

Sunday, November 12, 2023 24th Sunday after Pentecost

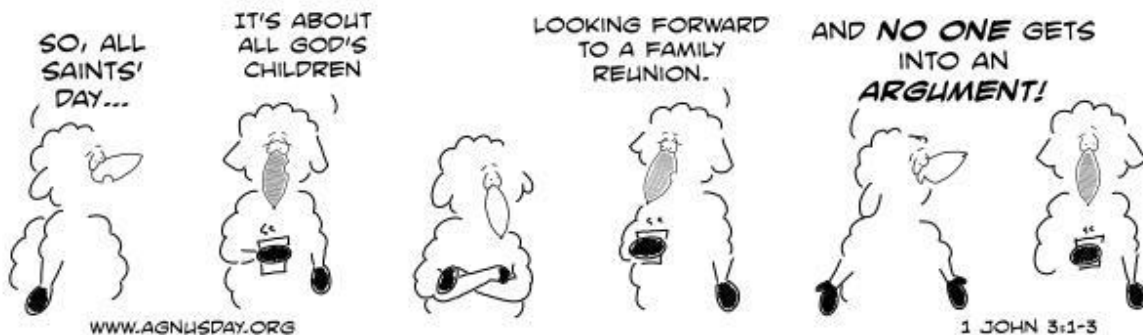
Veterans Day Observance and Harvest Home

8:30 a.m. Adult Sunday School

8:45 a.m. First Communion Class

9:30 a.m. Worship Service

10:30 a.m. Endowment Meeting



Just a reminder of upcoming events:

Nov 5 - All Saints Day. We will recognize the six members of St. John Lutheran who have died in the past year and all departed saints, including friends and family members, on this Sunday by the lighting of candles and the ringing of bells.

Nov. 12 - Veterans Day Observance and Harvest Home. We are honored to have Colonel Lisa Harbach, U. S. Army speaking. Bring canned or boxed foods. All donations of food will stay here in Jersey Shore for local people in need.

Nov. 19 – After worship, 11:00 am, Claire Weisner, from Trinity Lutheran, Milton, will share her experiences as a Young Adult in Global Mission during her year in Argentina and Uruguay. Learn how you can be a missionary for a year.

Nov. 26 – Annual Congregation Meeting following worship.

Dec. 3 – Youth and young at heart make Gingerbread houses after worship in the Sunday School room.

Dec. 9 – Women of St. John Annual Bazaar. 9 am – 2:00 p.m. Youth leave for Christmas at Hershey Park at 2:00 pm.

Dec. 16 -- Youth Christmas Caroling at 5 p.m.

Dec. 17 – Children’s Christmas Program and Congregation Christmas Dinner after worship.

December 24 - Celebrate the Nativity of Our Lord, Christmas

9:30 a.m. Advent Worship at St. John Lutheran

4:00 p.m. Christmas Eve Worship at St. John Lutheran

7:00 p.m. Christmas Eve Worship at St. James Lutheran

10:00 p.m. Special Music at St. John Lutheran

10:30 p.m. Christmas Eve Worship at St. John Lutheran

Let us pack the church on Christmas Eve! Invite everyone you encounter to join us at one of the Christmas Eve Services.