

***To those who are  
visiting today:***

Welcome to St. John Lutheran Church! We are delighted to have you here.

If you do not have a church home, you are cordially invited to join the St. John parish family.

**Sound amplifying devices,**

which are electronically connected to our speaker system, are available to those who have a hearing impairment. The units are light-weight, cordless, and simple to operate.

Please speak to an usher if you would like to use one.



The Rev. Joshua Ball  
Pastor  
(586) 749-5286

The Rev. Anthony Keilani  
Assistant Pastor

Mr. Erwin Aufdemberge  
Director of Parish Music

***Prayers as you await the beginning  
of the Divine Service are found  
inside the front cover of the hymnal.***

***The Psalms in the front section of  
the hymnal will also aid your  
pre-service meditation.***

# ***St. John Evangelical-Lutheran Church***

62657 North Avenue Ray Township, Michigan 48096  
(586) 749-5286

*The Lutheran Church – Missouri Synod*

**Web site:** www.stjohnray.com **E-mail:** pastor@stjohnray.comcastbiz.net

***The Nineteenth Sunday after Trinity and  
The Feast of the Reformation, transferred from October 31<sup>st</sup>  
October 26, 2025***

## **Welcome, Visitors to St. John Lutheran Church!**

### ***Concerning the Lord's Supper or Holy Communion:***

The Lord's Supper is the true Body and Blood of our Lord, Jesus Christ for repentant sinners to eat and drink.

In addition, receiving this blessed Sacrament of the Altar is a public expression that you are one with the faith that is believed, taught, and confessed by that congregation. St. John Ev.-Lutheran Church is a member congregation of the Lutheran Church–Missouri Synod (LC-MS.) Our pastors and congregations subscribe to the Confessions contained in the Book of Concord of 1580 as the correct interpretation of the Holy Scriptures, and faithful proclamation of the Christian faith. Therefore, communicant members in good standing of LC-MS congregations, and churches in altar and pulpit fellowship with the LC-MS, are invited to commune at St. John.

Not all Christians believe in communion practice of this kind, however we ask your kindness in respecting our practice. We rejoice at the faith of all who belong to our Lord's Church, and are glad that you are here with us today.

Adult and youth catechism instruction is always available, without obligation.

### ***The Sign of the Cross, kneeling and other Church Customs***

The hymnal places a cross , at certain points in the service where you may cross yourself. This is a very ancient and good – but *optional* – symbol and custom among Lutherans and many other Christians. Two examples are at the Invocation (“In the Name of the Father and of the , Son and of the Holy Spirit. Amen.”) and in the final sentence of the Nicene Creed.

*What does making the sign of the cross mean?*

It means “I belong to the true, living God: God the Father, God the Son and God the Holy Spirit”, for the sign of the cross is His sign. On the cross, God the Son willingly died in our place to pay for all our sins. God's sign was placed on your forehead and heart at Holy Baptism to “mark you as belonging to Christ the crucified.”

Please kneel where indicated *if you are able* (or stand with head bowed.)

Kneeling is a sign of humility and thanksgiving before God. Martin Luther encouraged Lutherans to follow the ancient custom of kneeling for these words in the Nicene Creed: “came down from heaven and was incarnate by the Holy Spirit of the Virgin Mary and was made man.” Why? This outward action shows our humility and thanksgiving that God has made Himself our Brother by becoming a true Man. Those words in the Creed are, therefore, marked [ ▼ ▲ ] for those who desire to kneel. You could also bow your head at those words.

*Another ancient and good custom* is bowing the head whenever the name “Jesus” is spoken during the Divine Service. This is an outward way to give honor and glory to our Savior and Lord, Jesus Christ.

### **The Calendar for the Week:**

<u><b>Today:</b></u> 10/26	9:00 am <b>Divine Service</b> Altar Server: Ron Heimke Crucifer: Ezra Ball 10:30 am Sunday School & Bible Study
<u><b>Monday:</b></u> 10/27	6:00 pm <b>Divine Service</b>
<u><b>Next Sunday:</b></u> 11/2	9:00 am <b>Divine Service</b> Altar Server: Andrew Upton Crucifer: Ezra Ball 10:30 am Sunday School & Bible Study
<u><b>Next Monday:</b></u> 11/3	6:00 pm <b>Divine Service</b>

### **Last Week's Attendance** Sunday: 47 Monday:

**Offering** Current: \$2,503 Missions: \$50 Building Fund: \$100

*To meet our 2025 budgetary requirements, an average weekly collection of \$3,635 is required.*

**In today's readings:** **The Son of God Has Set Us Free from Sin and Death by His Grace.** "Wisdom is justified by her deeds" (Matt. 11:19), and the true Wisdom of God, Christ Jesus the incarnate Son, justifies us by His deeds. He prepares His way by the preaching of repentance, but He has suffered the violence of the Law and voluntarily handed Himself over to violent men, that we might eat and drink with Him in His Kingdom and "remain in the house forever" (John 8:35). For He is "a friend of tax collectors and sinners" (Matt. 11:19), and He has rescued us by His grace from the slavery of sin and death. By the proclamation of His eternal Gospel "to those who dwell on earth, to every nation and tribe and language and people" (Rev. 14:6), "the righteousness of God has been manifested apart from the law" (Rom. 3:21), "that He might be just and the justifier of the one who has faith in Jesus" (Rom. 3:26). And by hearing the Gospel of Christ Jesus, "whom God put forward as a propitiation by His blood, to be received by faith" (Rom. 3:25), "you will know the truth, and the truth will set you free" (John 8:31-32).

**You can prepare for next week's Divine Service by reading:** Revelation 7:2-17; 1 John 3:1-3; Matthew 5:1-12  
Suggested Book of Concord reading: Formula of Concord, Solid Declaration XI:29-32.

**You are invited to a Martin Luther Hymn Sing** on Sunday, November 16 at 4:00 p.m. here at St. John. There will also be a **Bake Sale**, sponsored by the St. John Missions Society. Please join us for an afternoon of singing some of the great hymns of the Church composed by Martin Luther. For questions please contact Paul Kacanowski at [paukac123@gmail.com](mailto:paukac123@gmail.com).

**The Sacrament of Individual Confession & Absolution** is available by scheduling an appointment with Pastor Ball. The rite for individual, private confession comes from Luther's Small Catechism and is found in our hymnal on Pages 292-293.

**Your Lifeline to the Lutheran World View.** Issues, Etc. is a radio talk show and podcast produced by Lutheran Public Radio in Collinsville, IL and hosted by LCMS Pastor Todd Wilken. Recent topics include: Teens, Smartphones & Mental Health; Christian Nationalism; Netflix Shows Promoting LGBT Content; The National March for Life; Defining Bioethics and more. You can listen at your convenience at [issuesetc.org](http://issuesetc.org), Amazon Alexa, Google Home, Apple HomePod, TuneIn, the LPR mobile app and a podcast provider.

### **November Calendar**

- ♦ Martin Luther Hymn Sing & Bake Sale. Sunday, 11/16 at 4:00 p.m.
- ♦ Thanksgiving Evening Divine Service. Wednesday, 11/26 at 6:00 p.m.

, In Nomine Jesu ,  
**The Preparatory Office**

*Please stand when the bells are rung. You may give reverence to our Lord  
 by turning to face His cross as it comes down the center aisle and by bowing as it passes.*

**Processional Hymn: #565** *Thy Works, Not Mine, O Christ*

**The Invocation, Confession and Absolution** *Please stand*

Pastor: In the name of the Father and of the , Son and of the Holy Spirit. **Congregation: Amen.**

Pastor: Beloved in the Lord, let us draw near with a true heart and confess our sins unto God, our

Father, beseeching Him in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ to grant us forgiveness.

P: Our help , is in the name of the Lord, **C: Who made heaven and earth.**

P: I said, I will confess my transgressions unto the Lord, **C: and You forgave the iniquity of my sin.**

*Please kneel – Silence for reflection on God's Word and for self-examination.*

P: O almighty God, merciful Father,


**C: I, a poor miserable sinner, confess unto You all my sins and iniquities with which I  
 have ever offended You and justly deserved Your temporal and eternal punishment.  
 But I am heartily sorry for them and sincerely repent of them, and I pray You of Your  
 boundless mercy and for the sake of the holy, innocent, bitter sufferings and death of  
 Your beloved Son, Jesus Christ, to be gracious and merciful to me, a poor sinful being.**

*The pastor stands:*

P: Upon this your confession, I, by virtue of my office, as a called and ordained servant of the Word,  
 announce the grace of God unto all of you, and in the stead and by the command of my Lord Jesus Christ  
 I forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the , Son and of the Holy Spirit. **C: Amen.**

**The Liturgy of the Word**

**The Introit** *(Please stand)*

**The Anti**  **Cantor:** fore kings, | O Lord,\*  
 and shall not be | put to shame. *(Psalm 119:46)*

**Psalm:**

**Cantor:** I will bless the LORD at | all times;\*  
 His praise shall continually be | in my mouth.

**All:** **My soul makes its boast | in the LORD;\*  
 let the humble hear | and be glad.**

**Cantor:** Come, O children, lis- | ten to Me;\*  
 I will teach you the fear | of the LORD.

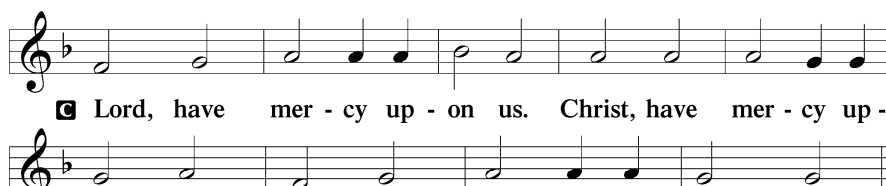
**All:** **The LORD redeems the life of His | servants;\*  
 none of those who take refuge in Him will | be condemned.** *(Psalm 34:1 -2, 11, 22)*

**Glory be to the Father and | to the Son\*  
 And to the Holy | Spirit.**

**As it was in the be- | ginning,\*  
 Is now, and will be forever. | Amen.**

**The Antiphon** - *(as above)*

**The Kyrie**

  
 Lord, have mer - cy up - on us. Christ, have mer - cy up -  
 on us. Lord, have mer - cy up - on us.

# The Gloria in Excelsis (Glory to God in the Highest)

Page 4



**P** Glory be to God on high: **G** and on earth peace, good - will toward  
men. We praise Thee, we bless Thee, we wor - ship Thee,  
we glorify Thee, we give thanks to Thee, for Thy great glory.  
O Lord God, heav'n-ly King, God the Fa-ther Al - mighty.  
O Lord, the only begotten Son, Je - sus Christ;  
O Lord God, Lamb of God, Son of the Father,  
that takest away the sin of the world, have mercy up-on us.  
Thou that takest away the sin of the world, re-ceive our prayer.  
Thou that sittest at the right hand of God the Father, have mercy up-  
on us. For Thou only art holy; Thou on - ly art the Lord.  
Thou only, O Christ, with the Ho - ly Ghost,  
, art most high in the glory of God the Father. A - men.

## The Salutation and Collect of the Day



**P** The Lord be with you. **A** And with thy spir - it. **P** Let us pray...

**P:** Almighty and gracious Lord, pour out Your Holy Spirit on Your faithful people. Keep us steadfast in Your grace and truth, protect and deliver us in times of temptation, defend us against all enemies, and grant to Your Church Your saving peace; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.



**A** A - - - men.

## The First Reading: Revelation 14:6-7

After the reading: P: The Word of the Lord. **C: Thanks be to God.**

### The Psalmody: A setting of Psalm 46 (NIV)

#### God Is Our Refuge and Strength

Psalm 46, paraphrased JAB

John A. Behnke (ASCAP)

**Choir alone:** God is our refuge and our strength, our only help in trouble.

**REFRAIN:** **Choir and Congregation**



**Choir alone:** We will not fear, though the earth give way and the mountains fall into the sea, though its waters roar and foam and the mountains quake with their surging. There is a river whose streams make glad the city of God, the holy place where the Most High dwells.

**REFRAIN:** **Choir and Congregation (as above)**

**Choir alone:** Nations are in uproar, kingdoms fall; He lifts His voice, the earth melts. The Lord Almighty is with us, the God of Jacob is our fortress.

**REFRAIN:** **Choir and Congregation (as above)**

**Choir alone:** He makes wars cease. He breaks the bow and burns the shields with fire. Be still, be still, be still and know that I am God. The Lord Almighty is with us, the God of Jacob is our fortress.

**REFRAIN:** **Choir and Congregation (as above)**

**Choir alone:** God is our refuge and our strength, our only help in trouble.

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## The Epistle Reading: Romans 3:19-28

After the reading: P: The Word of the Lord. **C: Thanks be to God.**

Please stand

### The Alleluia and Verse



Cantor: Fear not, | little flock,\*  
for it is your Father's good pleasure to give you the | kingdom. (St. Luke 12:32)

**All: The Alleluia – as above**

**Announcement of the Holy Gospel: St. John 8:31-36**

P: The Holy Gospel according to St. \_\_\_ the \_\_\_ chapter. , , ,



**Response to the Gospel**  
 ☐ Glo - ry be to Thee, O Lord.

P: This is the Gospel of the Lord.



☐ Praise be to Thee, O Christ.

**The Nicene Creed: Confessed by all.**

**I believe in one God, the Father Almighty, maker of heaven and earth and of all things visible and invisible.**

**And in one Lord Jesus Christ, the only-begotten Son of God, begotten of His Father before all worlds, God of God, Light of Light, very God of very God, begotten, not made, being of one substance with the Father, by whom all things were made; who for us men and for our salvation ▼ came down from heaven and was incarnate by the Holy Spirit of the Virgin Mary and was made man; ▲ and was crucified also for us under Pontius Pilate. He suffered and was buried. And the third day He rose again according to the Scriptures and ascended into heaven and sits at the right hand of the Father. And He will come again with glory to judge both the living and the dead, whose kingdom will have no end.**

**And I believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord and giver of life, who proceeds from the Father and the Son, who with the Father and the Son together is worshiped and glorified, who spoke by the prophets. And I believe in one holy \*Christian and Apostolic Church, I acknowledge one Baptism for the remission of sins, and I look for the resurrection of the dead and the life , of the world to come. Amen.**

\*The ancient text reads: one holy *catholic* and apostolic Church.

**The Preaching of the Gospel****Hymn of the Day: #656** *A Mighty Fortress Is Our God***The Prayer of the Church - *Please kneel*****The Offering*****The Liturgy of the Holy Eucharist****Please stand when the offering is brought forward.***The Offertory**

☐ Cre - ate in me a clean heart, O God, and re - new a right spir - it with - in me.



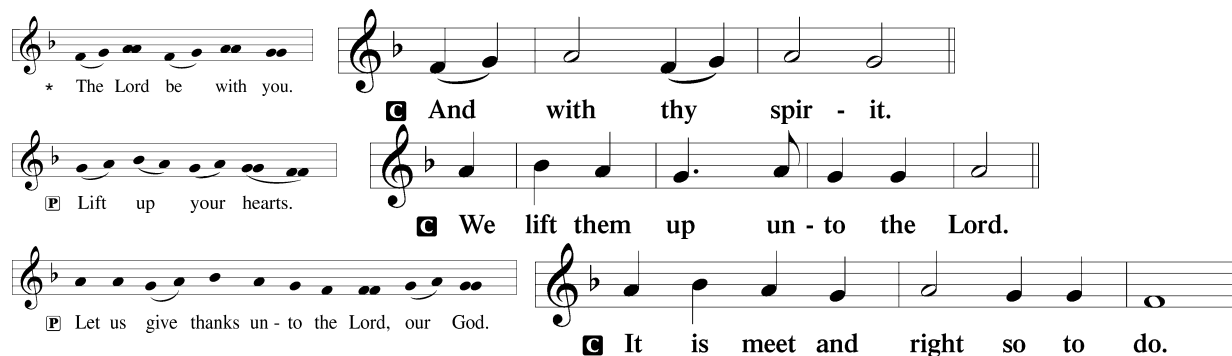
Cast me not a - way from Thy pres - ence, and take not Thy Ho - ly Spir - it from me.



Re - store un - to me the joy of Thy sal - va - tion, and up - hold me with Thy free spir - it.



## The Preface



\* The Lord be with you.

And with thy spir - it.

Lift up your hearts.

We lift them up un - to the Lord.

Let us give thanks un - to the Lord, our God.

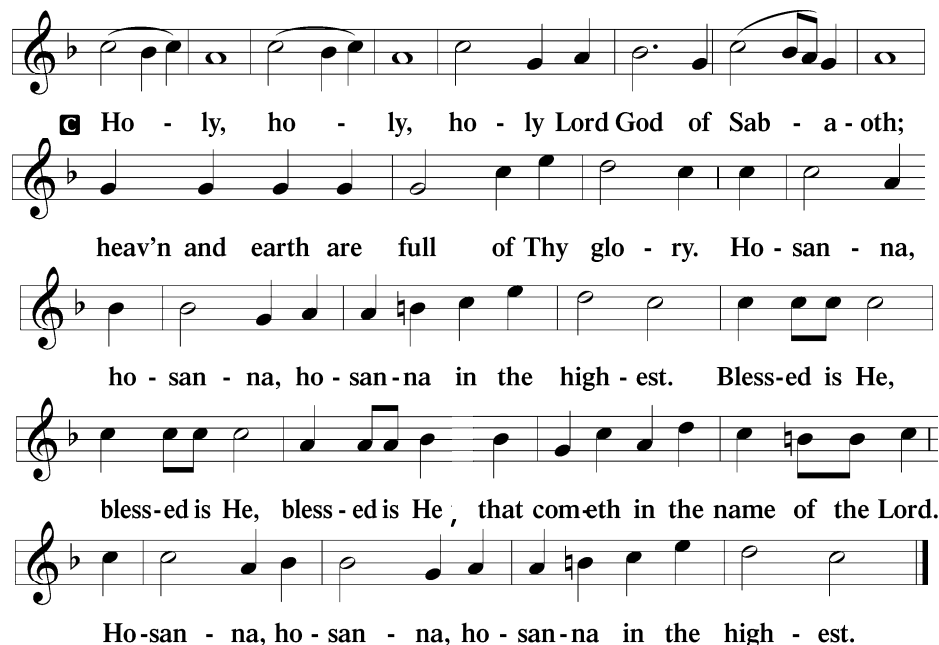
It is meet and right so to do.

## The Proper Preface

It is good, right, and salutary ... evermore praising You and saying:

## The *Sanctus* (Holy, Holy, Holy)

*It is appropriate to kneel for the Sanctus and to remain kneeling until the distribution.*



Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord God of Sab - a - oth;

heav'n and earth are full of Thy glo - ry. Ho - san - na,

ho - san - na, ho - san - na in the high - est. Bless-ed is He,

bless-ed is He, bless-ed is He, that com-eth in the name of the Lord.

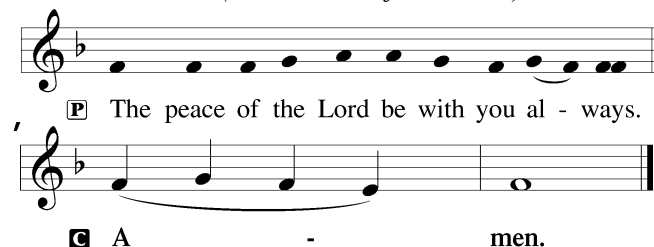
Ho-san - na, ho - san - na, ho - san - na in the high - est.

## The Our Father (spoken by all)

**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.

## The *Verba Christi* (The Words of Christ by which He instituted the Blessed Sacrament)


## The *Pax Domini* (The Peace of the Lord)



The peace of the Lord be with you al - ways.

A - men.



 O Christ, Thou Lamb of God, that tak-est a-way the sin of the  
 world, have mer-cy up - on us. O Christ, Thou Lamb of God, that  
 tak-est a-way the sin of the world, have mer-cy up - on us.  
 O Christ, Thou Lamb of God, that tak-est a-way the sin of the  
 world, grant us Thy peace. A - men.

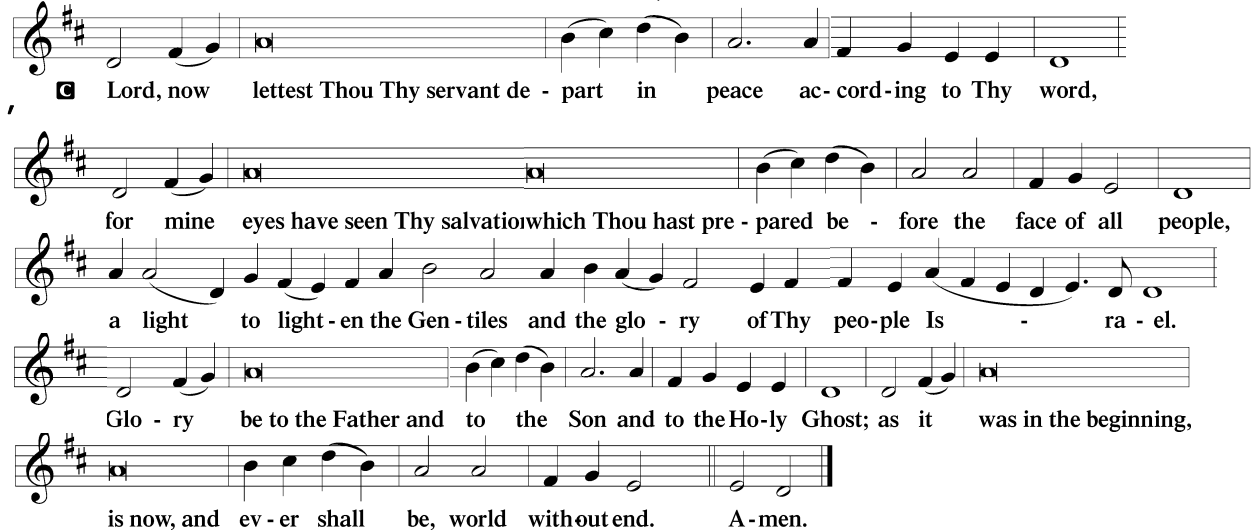
**The Holy Communion — Hymns sung during distribution of the Sacrament:**


#563 *Jesus, Thy Blood and Righteousness*

#655 *Lord, Keep Us Steadfast in Your Word*

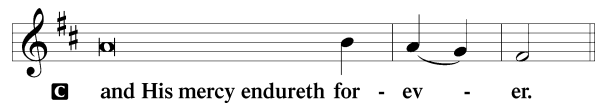
Prayers for before and after receiving the Sacrament are found inside the front cover of the hymnal.


**The Nunc Dimittis** — Please stand when motioned by Pastor



 Lord, now lettest Thou Thy servant de - part in peace ac-cord-ing to Thy word,  
 for mine eyes have seen Thy salvation which Thou hast pre - pared be - fore the face of all people,  
 a light to light-en the Gen-tiles and the glo - ry of Thy peo-ple Is - ra - el.  
 Glo - ry be to the Father and to the Son and to the Ho-ly Ghost; as it was in the beginning,  
 is now, and ev - er shall be, world without end. A-men.

**The Thanksgiving** P: O give thanks unto the Lord.



 and His mercy endureth for - ev - er.

**The Post-Communion Collect**

P: O God the Father, the fountain and source of all goodness .....



 A - men.

**The Salutation and *Benedicamus***

P: The Lord be with you.



 And with thy spir - it.

P: Bless we the Lord.



 Thanks be to God.

**The Benediction**

P: The Lord bless you and keep you. The Lord make His face shine on you and be gracious to you. The Lord lift up His countenance on you and , give you peace.



 A-men, a-men, a - men.

**Silent Prayer**

**Recessional Hymn: #644** *The Church's One Foundation*  
*, Soli Deo Gloria ,*