

Order for Worship
November 21, 2021
Service of Thanksgiving
Communion/First Communion

+ GATHERING +

PRELUDE Now thank we all our God – setting by Harald Rohlig
David Lewis, trumpet

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LIGHTING THE TRINITY CANDLE

St. John's is a community that is

Ignited by Spirit, Growing in Love.

We begin our worship in the name of the Father, the Son and the Holy Spirit.

Amen

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Gracious Creator,

you have given us so much,

**but too often we take those gifts for granted,
or as something to which we are entitled.**

You call us to live in caring community,

**but too often we place our wants and needs first,
with those of others a distant second.**

You call us to share Your gifts with the world around us,

**but we are worried that there may not be enough,
and our worrying gets in the way of our sharing.**

For all the times when we mistreat and misuse Your gifts,

**for all the times we assume that we get what we have by ourselves,
forgive us and lead us back to the path of wisdom.**

Silence for prayerful reflection.

God is a gracious giver.

God is gracious in forgiveness.

God calls us to new patterns and new life.

We are a forgiven people!

Thanks be to God!

HYMN ELW 694 Sing to the Lord of Harvest

Sing to the Lord of harvest your songs of love and praise;
with joyful hearts and voices your alleluias raise;
by him the rolling seasons in fruitful order move;
sing to the Lord of harvest a joyous song of love.

God makes the clouds drop fatness, the deserts bloom and spring,
the hills leap up in gladness, the valleys laugh and sing.
God fills them with his fullness, all things with large increase,
and crowns the year with goodness, with plenty and with peace.

Bring to this sacred altar the gifts his goodness gave,
the golden sheaves harvest, the souls Christ died to save.
Your hearts lay down before him when at his feet you fall,
and with your lives adore him who gave his life for all.

Text: John S.B. Monsell Music: Johann Steurlein
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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.

SONG OF THANKSGIVING ELW 870 We Praise You, O God

We praise you, O God, our redeemer, creator;
in grateful devotion our tribute we bring.
We lay it before you; we kneel and adore you;
we bless your holy name; glad praises we sing.

With voices united our praises we offer
and gladly our songs of thanksgiving we raise.
With you, Lord, beside us, your strong arm will guide us.
To you, our great redeemer, forever be praise!

Text: Julia C. Cory Music: A. Valerius
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OPENING PRAYER (based on Psalm 65:1-13)

What mighty praise belongs to You, O God,
for Your acts of love and faithfulness toward us!

**In Your mercy You hear our prayers,
You forgive our sins,
You provide for our needs.**

From one end of the earth to the other,
You inspire worship and praise!
Even nature celebrates Your goodness.

**We, too, would offer our praise and thanksgiving
for Your mercy and Your faithful love toward us.
Receive our adoration,
our confession,
our thanksgiving.**

Through the power of Your Holy Spirit
make Your presence known among us
that we may hear Your Word and know Your will.
**In the name of Jesus Christ, we pray.
Amen.**

+ WORD +

FIRST LESSON: Deuteronomy 8:7-18

For the Lord your God is bringing you into a good land, a land with flowing streams, with springs and underground waters welling up in valleys and hills, a land of wheat and barley, of vines and fig trees and pomegranates, a land of olive trees and honey, a land where you may eat bread without scarcity, where you will lack nothing, a land whose stones are iron and from whose hills you may mine copper. You shall eat your fill and bless the Lord your God for the good land that he has given you.

Take care that you do not forget the Lord your God, by failing to keep his commandments, his ordinances, and his statutes, which I am commanding you today. When you have eaten your fill and have built fine houses and live in them, and when your herds and flocks have multiplied, and your silver and gold is multiplied, and all that you have is multiplied, then do not exalt yourself, forgetting the Lord your God, who brought you out of the land of Egypt, out of the house of slavery, who led you through the great and terrible wilderness, an arid waste-land with poisonous snakes and scorpions. He made water flow for you from flint rock, and fed you in the wilderness with manna that your ancestors did not know, to humble you and to test you, and in the end to do you good. Do not say to yourself, 'My power and the might of my own hand have gained me this wealth.' But remember the Lord your God, for it is he who gives you power to get wealth, so that he may confirm his covenant that he swore to your ancestors, as he is doing today.

The Word of the Lord.
Thanks be to God.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION Alleluia! Lord and Savior



Al - le-lu - ia! Lord and Sav - ior: o - pen now your sav - ing word.



Let it burn like fire with - in us; speak un - til our hearts are stirred.



Al - le - lu - ia! Lord, we sing for the good news that you bring.

GOSPEL READING: Luke 17:11-19

On the way to Jerusalem Jesus was going through the region between Samaria and Galilee. As he entered a village, ten lepers approached him. Keeping their distance, they called out, saying, 'Jesus, Master, have mercy on us!' When he saw them, he said to them, 'Go and show yourselves to the priests.' And as they went, they were made clean. Then one of them, when he saw that he was healed, turned back, praising God with a loud voice. He prostrated himself at Jesus' feet and thanked him. And he was a Samaritan. Then Jesus asked, 'Were not ten made clean? But the other nine, where are they? Was none of them found to return and give praise to God except this foreigner?' Then he said to him, 'Get up and go on your way; your faith has made you well.'

This is the Gospel of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

SERMON

HYMN OF THE DAY ELW 681 We Plow the Fields and Scatter

We plow the fields and scatter
the good seed on the land,
but it is fed and watered
by God's almighty hand,
who sends the snow in winter,
the warmth to swell the grain,
the breezes and the sunshine,
and soft refreshing rain.

All good gifts around us
are sent from heav'n above.
We thank you, Lord,

we thank you, Lord,
for all your love.

We thank you, our creator,
for all things bright and good,
the seedtime and the harvest,
our life, our health, our food.
No gifts have we to offer
for all your love imparts,
but what you most would treasure—
our humble, thankful hearts.

All good gifts around us
are sent from heav'n above.
We thank you, Lord,
we thank you, Lord,
for all your love.

Text: Matthias Claudius, 1740-1815; tr. Jane M. Campbell, 1817-1878, alt.
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PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

Let us give thanks to God our Creator for all the blessings we share this day. For all of those who have gone before, people strong and brave, willing to put their lives on the line for the causes they believe in, we give you thanks.

Grant us, our God, the courage to step out in faith for that which is true and right.

For freedom of speech and of the press, for the avenues open to express ourselves, and for opportunities to effect change, we give you thanks.

We pray for those who are voiceless victims of unjust governments.

For fertile soil, abundant rain, and seasons of refreshment, we give you thanks.

We pray for those whose land is parched and whose wells are dry.

For our families, friends, and the church, who provide us with food and drink for our journey, we give you thanks.

We pray for those who are hungry and tired, hopeless and wandering, finding no place to rest.

For strong bodies and minds, for opportunities that encourage us to grow and become more the servants of thanksgiving you call us to be, we give you thanks.

We pray for the sick, for the stagnant who are unwilling to dream or change.

Help us, O God, to be responsible stewards of your blessings, people who care for the earth and all its people. Keep us connected with all humanity, even though miles and cultures tend to separate us. May we always respond to your call with a true spirit of thanksgiving. We ask this, and all that you see that we need, in the name of the One who gave us all we have, Jesus Christ, our Lord and Savior.

Amen

MUSICAL OFFERING Allegro Scherzando – Franz Josef Haydn, arr. Joh Cacavas
David Lewis, trumpet

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OFFERTORY PRAYER

God of all creation,

Thank you for the wonderful things you have made.

Thank you for the universe full of stars and planets.

Thank you for our world, full of life.

Thank you for making each one of us.

Thank you for loving each one of us.

Take these gifts we offer back to you.

May they be used to the glory of your name.

We offer you ourselves and all the gifts you have blessed us with.

Take us and use us to share your love with the world.

Amen.

COMMUNION LITURGY

The Lord of blessings be with you.

And also with you.

Be glad and rejoice, God's people, lifting your hearts to the Restorer of lives.

We offer them to the God who clothes us in grace.

People of God, come to the table where you shall eat and be satisfied.

With shouts of joy, we gather to praise the name of God!

WORDS OF INSTITUTION

THE LORD'S PRAYER

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.

CELEBRATION OF COMMUNION

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

O God, in this holy communion you have welcomed us into your presence, nourished us with words of mercy, and fed us at your table. Amid the cares of this life, strengthen us to love you with all our heart, serve our neighbors with a willing spirit, and honor the earth you have made; through Christ our Lord.

Amen.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

BLESSING

May the Lord of all creation shower blessings and favor upon you.

Amen

May the Lord of the harvest be present at your Thanksgiving table and fill your loved ones with peace.

Amen

May the Lord of salvation guide you all your days until you come into the joys of the eternal kingdom.

Amen

And may almighty God, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, bless you now and forever.

Amen

HYMN ELW 840 Now thank we all our God

Now thank we all our God with hearts and hands and voices,
who wondrous things has done, in whom this world rejoices;
who, from our mothers' arms, has blest us on our way
with countless gifts of love, and still is ours today.

Oh, may this bounteous God through all our life be near us,
with ever joyful hearts and blessed peace to cheer us,
and keep us all in grace, and guide us when perplexed,
and free us from all harm in this world and the next.

All praise and thanks to God the Father now be given,
the Son, and Spirit blest, who reign in highest heaven,
the one eternal God, whom earth and heav'n adore;
for thus it was, is now, and shall be evermore.

Text: Martin Rinkhart, tr. Catherine Winkworth Music: Johann Cruger
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DISMISSAL

Go in peace with grateful hearts.

Thanks be to God.

POSTLUDE Harvest Hymn Fantasy – L.M. Porter
c. 1967 Lorenz Publishing Co.

*Prayer of confession written by Rev Gord, and posted on <http://worshipofferings.blogspot.ca/> Opening prayer
written by Christine Longhurst Offertory prayer posted on <http://www.bathandwells.org.uk/>*

Mark your Calendar

Tonight!	6-8:30pm Family Game Night
Monday, Nov. 22	7:30pm Executive Meeting
Thursday, Nov 25	Office Closed for Thanksgiving
Friday, Nov 26	Office Closed
Sunday, Nov. 28	8:45am Faith Formation (preK—grade 5) 9:30am Worship (& zoom)

Congratulations to the following who will be taking their first communion this morning:



Matthew Asmann
Avett Hobson
McCartney Hobson
Owen Keller
Zaydah Rodriguez
Dylan Scharneck
Charlotte Yost

St. John's 2022 Budget is available for you to review.

There will be one more Budget Q&A session, immediately following worship today. Feel free to join us if you have any questions surrounding the proposed 2022 budget.

Annual Congregational Meeting will be held within worship on Sunday, December 12th at 9:30am. Save the date and plan to be in worship to vote on the proposed budget, elect new council members and hear our ministry emphasis for 2022.

Family Game Night, TONIGHT , 6-8:30am

Students grade 6-12 are invited to bring their families to church for a game night! Bring your favorite board game or card game to share. Tables will be set up, fun will be had and snacks will be provided.

Each family is asked to bring a new game to donate to Gemma Services (formerly Silver Springs Martin Luther School).

Advent Worship Volunteers Needed

Each Sunday in the season of Advent, we light a new candle on the Advent wreath. Volunteers are needed to lead the litany and light the candle during this part of worship. Individuals, couples or families are welcome to sign up – the litany will be divided based on the number of people participating.

To sign up for a Sunday, please visit the following link:

<https://www.signupgenius.com/go/60B084FA8AD2CAAFD0-advent2>

Advent Pilgrimage in Palestine – starting Tuesday, November 30 at 7 PM

During the Advent season we often talk a lot about the Holy Land of the past without talking much about the Holy Land of the present. What is going on in Bethlehem today?

Pastor Becky will be leading a three week Advent conversation guided by ELCA Young Adults and ELCA Peace Not Walls on the WAY to Bethlehem. Conversations will take place on Tuesdays, November 30, December 7 and 14 at 7 PM in the Fellowship Hall.

If you would like to connect to the conversation using Zoom, please use the link below to join us virtually. <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/84120654612?pwd=RkRDMVpGT3pISHJGUG9BMTRNOUhzQT09>

Drive Thru Journey to Bethlehem – Saturday, December 18 from 4-6 PM

Rain date – Sunday, December 19 from 4-6 PM

The committees and teams of St. John’s will be creating a Drive Thru Journey to Bethlehem event for the congregation and community this December. Even if you’re not on a committee or team, you can still be part of the event! The first planning meeting will be held on **Thursday, November 18 at 7:30 PM on Zoom.**

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/81878337530?pwd=Q3RpZXROUTV0cE9BbTE0QU5vK1pOdz09>

Join us!

Longest Night Worship – Tuesday, December 21 at 6:30 PM

For those who have experienced loss, the holidays can be a particularly painful time, stirring up grief in acute ways. As a result, churches around the world have adopted the practice of having a “Blue Christmas” or a “Longest Night” service during the Advent season. In the Northern hemisphere, this service is often observed on December 21st, the Winter Solstice, which is the longest night of the year.

Worship this evening will offer space for prayer, reflection, and remembrance amidst the holiday hustle and bustle. In this pandemic season of life, grief and loss are magnified and nearly universal, and we hope that these words and this worship experience will provide a space of calm, quiet, and healing.

To connect to the service using Zoom, please use the link below:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/84822432054?pwd=THFuOWZ0dWovWnJlZGRVaktzR2hCZz09>

OUR RESPONSE TO GOD’S LOVE

Worship Attendance		
11/14/2021 – In Person– 43 Zoom - 18 households		
Giving Amounts	Total received between 10/24-11/14/2021	Amount Needed between 10/24-11/14/2021
General Fund	\$12,569.07	\$11,216
Building Fund	\$540.14	
<i>Weekly average is based on the 2021 budget. A weekly building fund amount needed is no longer reported as the building fund has been used for the mortgage, which has been paid off. All other building expenses are included in General Fund budget and giving. The above numbers include electronic giving. Mint duty is being done every other week for the time being.</i>		
Capital Campaign Activity Update		
Capital Campaign Contributions Pledged		\$ 260,000.00
Capital Campaign Contributions received between 10/24-11/14/2021		\$400
Capital Campaign Contributions received to date		\$ 252,799.65
A gift was made in memory of Oren & Eva Woodward and Lewis & Ruth Shipe by Roy & Ellen Moll.		