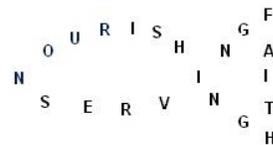


November 21, 2021



St. John's Evangelical Lutheran Church
300 Queen Street
Northumberland, PA 17857
570-473-3770

Welcome to St. John's! God has called us to Jesus' work through nourishing, serving, and faith. We're glad you're here!

BRIEF ORDER FOR CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

In the name of the Father, and of the ✠ Son, and of the Holy Spirit.
Amen.

Let us confess our sin in the presence of God and of one another.

Silence is kept for reflection.

Have mercy on us, O God. We confess that we have sinned against you and against our neighbor. We have built walls instead of tables and have turned away the stranger. We have sought glory for ourselves and have treasured that which does not satisfy. Help us to love as you love, to welcome those you send, and to treasure mercy and justice. Turn us from our ways to your ways, and free us to serve those in need. Amen.

God, who makes all things new, forgives your sins for ✠ Jesus' sake and remembers them no more. Lift up your heads and your hearts.
Yours is the kingdom of God.
Amen.

GATHERING HYMN *Come You Thankful People, Come* ELW 693

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

O Lord, maker of all things, you open your hand and satisfy the desire of every living creature. We praise you for crowning the fields with your blessings and enabling us once more to gather in the fruits of the earth. Teach us to use your gifts carefully, that our land may continue to yield its increase so that all are fed, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

Amen.

FIRST READING

Deuteronomy 24:17-22

¹⁷ You shall not deprive a resident alien or an orphan of justice; you shall not take a widow's garment in pledge. ¹⁸ Remember that you were a slave in Egypt and the Lord your God redeemed you from there; therefore I command you to do this. ¹⁹ When you reap your harvest in your field and forget a sheaf in the field, you shall not go back to get it; it shall be left for the alien, the orphan, and the widow, so that the Lord your God may bless you in all your undertakings. ²⁰ When you beat your olive trees, do not strip what is left; it shall be for the alien, the orphan, and the widow. ²¹ When you gather the grapes of your vineyard, do not glean what is left; it shall be for the alien, the orphan, and the widow. ²² Remember that you were a slave in the land of Egypt; therefore I am commanding you to do this.

The word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

PSALM 65

read responsively

¹ Praise is due to you, O God, in Zion; and to you shall vows be performed,

² **O you who answer prayer! To you all flesh shall come.**

³ When deeds of iniquity overwhelm us, you forgive our transgressions.

⁴ **Happy are those whom you choose and bring near to live in your courts. We shall be satisfied with the goodness of your house, your holy temple.**

⁵ By awesome deeds you answer us with deliverance, O God of our salvation; you are the hope of all the ends of the earth and of the farthest seas.

⁶ **By your strength you established the mountains; you are girded with might.**

⁷ You silence the roaring of the seas, the roaring of their waves, the tumult of the peoples.

⁸ **Those who live at earth's farthest bounds are awed by your signs; you make the gateways of the morning and the evening shout for joy.**

⁹ You visit the earth and water it, you greatly enrich it; the river of God is full of water; you provide the people with grain, for so you have prepared it.

¹⁰ **You water its furrows abundantly, settling its ridges, softening it with showers, and blessing its growth.**

¹¹ You crown the year with your bounty; your wagon tracks overflow with richness.

¹² **The pastures of the wilderness overflow, the hills gird themselves with joy,**

¹³ the meadows clothe themselves with flocks, the valleys deck themselves with grain, they shout and sing together for joy.

Praise is due to you, O God, in Zion!

SECOND LESSON

Galatians 6:6-10

⁶ Those who are taught the word must share in all good things with their teacher. ⁷ Do not be deceived; God is not mocked, for you reap whatever you sow. ⁸ If you sow to your own flesh, you will reap corruption from the

flesh; but if you sow to the Spirit, you will reap eternal life from the Spirit. ⁹ So let us not grow weary in doing what is right, for we will reap at harvest time, if we do not give up. ¹⁰ So then, whenever we have an opportunity, let us work for the good of all, and especially for those of the family of faith.

The word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Please stand, if you are able, for the Gospel Acclamation and reading of today's Gospel lesson.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

REFRAIN: Alleluia. Blessed are you who are hungry now, for you will be filled. Alleluia. (Luke 6:21)

GOSPEL

Mark 4:26-29

The holy gospel according to Mark.

Glory to you, O Lord.

²⁶ He also said, "The kingdom of God is as if someone would scatter seed on the ground, ²⁷ and would sleep and rise night and day, and the seed would sprout and grow, he does not know how. ²⁸ The earth produces of itself, first the stalk, then the head, then the full grain in the head. ²⁹ But when the grain is ripe, at once he goes in with his sickle, because the harvest has come."

The Gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, O Christ

TIME WITH THE CHILDREN

SERMON

HYM OF THE DAY *Sing to The Lord of Harvest* **ELW 694**

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. He 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

PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

United with your saints across time and place, we pray for our shared world.

A brief silence.

We give thanks for the church in every land. Sustain the faithful with your living word. Inspire radical hospitality toward all who are searching, and call us into a more generous way of living. Lord, in your mercy, **receive our prayer.**

We give thanks for the earth. Bring forth plentiful harvests and renew our commitment to share abundantly. Preserve the lands and waters that bring nourishment. Lord, in your mercy, **receive our prayer.**

We give thanks for leaders in our communities. Kindle a passion for justice and peace in every national and local elected official. Curb selfish impulses and guide us toward collaborative solutions. Lord, in your mercy, **receive our prayer.**

We give thanks for all who provide for others. Sustain caregivers, social workers, and volunteers in their efforts. Provide homes, food, employment, and medical care to all who are struggling. Lord, in your mercy, **receive our prayer.**

We give thanks for this congregation and those who plan worship. Guide deacons, pastors, musicians, and lay leaders in their creation of meaningful experiences. Instill in us a sense of joy and wonder when we come to worship you. Lord, in your mercy, **receive our prayer.**

We give thanks for the faithful who now rest in you (*especially Justus Falckner, Jehu Jones, and William Passavant, pastors in North America, whom we commemorate today*). Teach us by their example and bring us with them into your loving embrace. Lord, in your mercy, **receive our prayer.**

Accept these prayers, gracious God, and those known only to you; through Jesus Christ, our Lord.

Amen.

Thank you for your continued support with your offering. Offering may be placed in the offering plate on the table in the rear of the sanctuary, by mail or our on-line giving.

OFFERING PRAYER

Holy God, the earth is yours and everything in it, yet you have chosen to dwell among your creatures. Come among us now in these gifts of bread

and wine, and strengthen us to be your body for the world through Jesus Christ our Lord.

Amen.

DIALOGUE

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.

THANKSGIVING AT THE TABLE

Holy, mighty, and merciful Lord, heaven and earth are full of your glory. In great love you sent to us Jesus, your Son, who reached out to heal the sick and suffering, who preached good news to the poor, and who, on the cross, opened his arms to all.

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.

Remembering, therefore, his death, resurrection, and ascension, we await his coming in glory. Pour out upon us the Spirit of your love, O Lord, and unite the wills of all who share this heavenly food, the body and blood of Jesus Christ, our Lord; to whom, with you and the Holy Spirit, be all honor and glory, now and forever. **Amen.**

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.

INVITATION TO COMMUNION

The harvest is plentiful and given in love for all the saints. **Amen**

(Communion will be served in the pews, please be seated)

The body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen you and keep you in his grace.

Amen.

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

Blessed Jesus, at this table, you have been for us both host and meal. Now send us forth to extend our tables and to share your gifts until that day when all feast together at your heavenly banquet.

Amen.

BLESSING

God, the beginning and the end, who has written your name in the book of life, ✠ bless and keep you in grace and peace from this time forth and forevermore. **Amen.**

CONGREGATION MEETING

SENDING HYMN *For the Fruit of All Creation* **ELW 679**

DISMISSAL

We go now to be a light in our community, **to make Christ known to all through nourishing, serving, and faith. Thanks be to God!**

Thank you for worshipping at St. John's today. We pray that you have a blessed and Christ-filled week! See you next week!

Pastor
Karla Leiby

Director of Music
William Jacavage

Pastor Emeritus
Dale Biesecker

Acolyte
Laura Shearer

Communion Assistant
Ginny Butler

Lector
Ginny Butler

Thank you to everyone that participated and donated items for Harvest Home. Items collected will be given to the Mitten Tree families for Christmas.

The Mitten Tree and Birthright Tree are up and ready to be undecorated just in time for Black Friday shopping deals later this week! These outreach ministries have been a blessing to those in need.

The Christmas Bazaar will be held Friday, December 3 from 9 a.m.-7 p.m. and Saturday, December 4 from 9 a.m.- 2 p.m. Come check us out!

Set-up for the Bazaar will be Wednesday, December 1 from 8 a.m.-?
Any help would be greatly appreciated – *many hands makes the work lighter.*