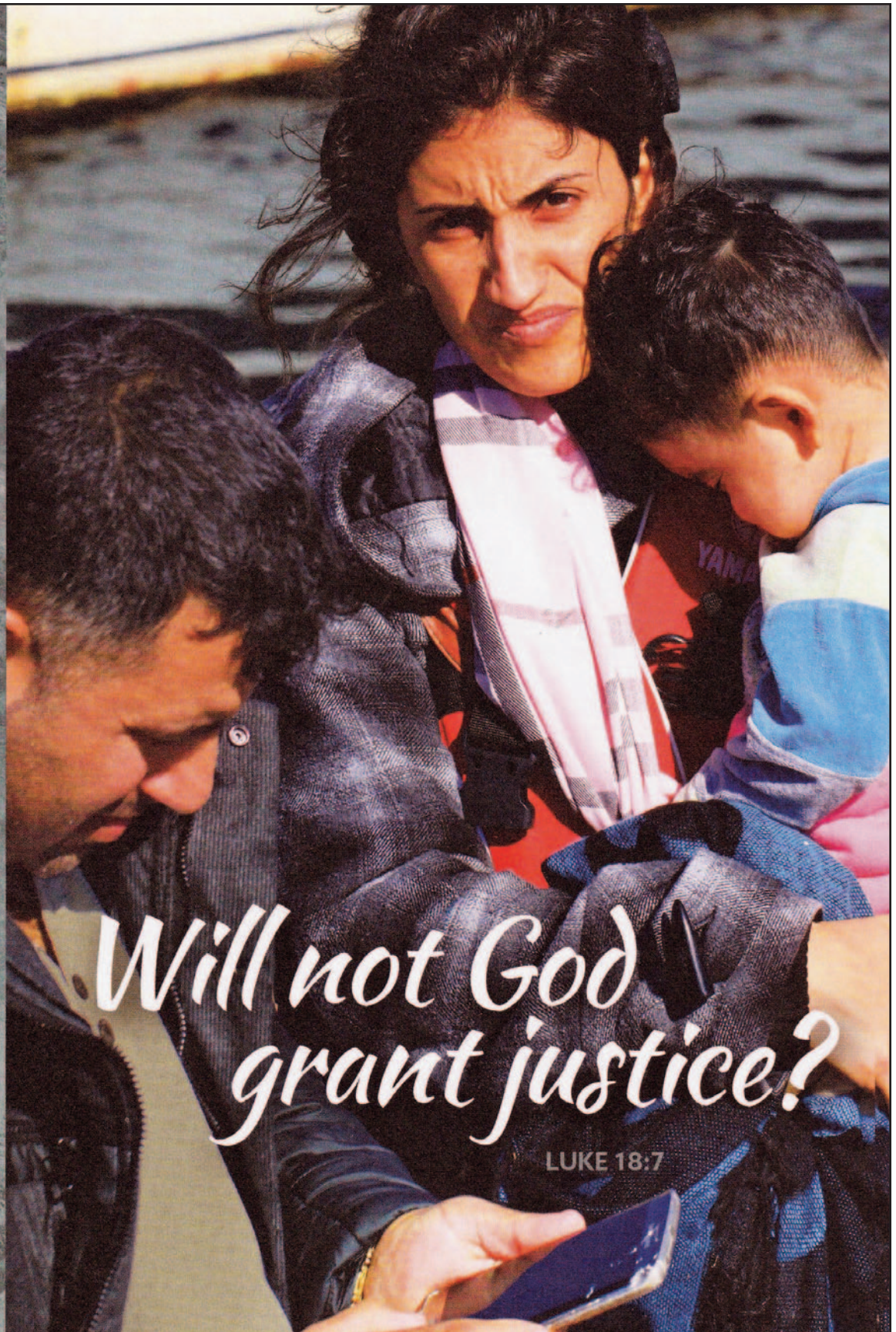


St. John Lutheran Church



*Will not God
grant justice?*

LUKE 18:7

Cover: Refugees arriving on the island of Lesbos, Greece, 2015. Photo copyright © 2024 Nick Hatton/Alamy Stock Photo. Used by permission.

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20251019-LEC29 ITEM013515 ELCA-K

ST. JOHN EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH

The Rev. Tammy P. Harmer

Deacon Betsey Eley & Deacon Ken Weaver

19TH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST • OCTOBER 19, 2025

Reverent Reflection

Prelude

Welcome

Church Announcements

Confession and Forgiveness

- P. Blessed be the holy Trinity, + one God, who forgives all our sin, whose mercy endures forever.
- C. **Amen.**
- P. O God, powerful and compassionate, you shepherd your people, faithfully feeding and protecting us. Heal each of us, and make us a whole people, that we may embody the justice and peace of your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.
- C. **Amen.**
- P. Most merciful God,
- C. **we confess that we are captive to sin and cannot free ourselves. We have sinned against you in thought, word, and deed, by what we have done and by what we have left undone. We have not loved you with our whole heart; we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. For the sake of your Son, Jesus Christ, have mercy on us. Forgive us, renew us, and lead us, so that we may delight in your will and walk in your ways, to the glory of your holy name.**
- Amen.**
- P. In the mercy of almighty God, Jesus Christ was given to die for us and for his sake God forgives us all our sin. As a called and ordained minister of the church of Christ, and by his authority, I therefore declare to you the entire forgiveness of all your sins in the name of the Father, and of the + Son, and of the Holy Spirit.
- C. **Amen.**

Gathering Hymn: Praise To The Lord, The Almighty (#858)

Apostolic 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.**

Kyrie p. 147

- P. In peace, let us pray to the Lord.
- C. **Lord, have mercy.**
- P. For the peace from above, and for our salvation, let us pray to the Lord.
- C. **Lord, have mercy.**
- P. For the peace of the whole world, for the well-being of the Church of God, and for the unity of all, let us pray to the Lord.

C. **Lord, have mercy.**

P. For this holy house, and for all who offer here their worship and praise, let us pray to the Lord.

C. **Lord, have mercy.**

P. Help, save, comfort, and defend us, gracious Lord.

C. **Amen.**

Canticle p. 149

P. This is the feast of victory for our God. Alleluia.

C. **Worthy is Christ, the Lamb who was slain, whose blood set us free to be people of God. Power and riches and wisdom and strength, and honor and blessing and glory are his.**

This is the feast of victory for our God. Alleluia.

Sing with all the people of God and join in the hymn of all creation:

Blessing and honor and glory and might be to God and the Lamb forever. Amen.

This is the feast of victory for our God, for the Lamb who was slain has begun his reign.

Alleluia. Alleluia.

P. The Lord be with you.

C. **And also with you.**

Prayer of the Day

Let us pray:

O Lord God, tireless guardian of your people, you are always ready to hear our cries. Teach us to rely day and night on your care. Inspire us to seek your enduring justice for all this suffering world, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.

Word

First Reading: Genesis 32:22-31

²²The same night [Jacob] got up and took his two wives, his two maids, and his eleven children, and crossed the ford of the Jabbok. ²³He took them and sent them across the stream, and likewise everything that he had.

²⁴Jacob was left alone; and a man wrestled with him until daybreak. ²⁵When the man saw that he did not prevail against Jacob, he struck him on the hip socket; and Jacob's hip was put out of joint as he wrestled with him.

²⁶Then he said, "Let me go, for the day is breaking." But Jacob said, "I will not let you go, unless you bless me."

²⁷So he said to him, "What is your name?" And he said, "Jacob." ²⁸Then the man said, "You shall no longer be called Jacob, but Israel, for you have striven with God and with humans, and have prevailed." ²⁹Then Jacob asked him, "Please tell me your name." But he said, "Why is it that you ask my name?" And there he blessed him. ³⁰So Jacob called the place Peniel, saying, "For I have seen God face to face, and yet my life is preserved." ³¹The sun rose upon him as he passed Peniel, limping because of his hip.

Word of God, word of life.

Thanks be to God.

Psalm 121

Response: "My help comes from the Lord, the maker of heaven and earth."

¹ I lift up my eyes to the hills; from where is my help to come?

² **My help comes from the Lord, the maker of heaven and earth.**

³ The Lord will not let your foot be moved nor will the one who watches over you fall asleep.

⁴ **Behold, the keeper of Israel will neither slumber nor sleep; R**

⁵ the Lord watches over you; the Lord is your shade at your right hand;

⁶**the sun will not strike you by day, nor the moon by night.**

⁷The Lord will preserve you from all evil and will keep your life.

⁸**The Lord will watch over your going out and your coming in, from this time forth forevermore. R**

Second Reading: 2 Timothy 3:14—4:5

¹⁴ But as for you, continue in what you have learned and firmly believed, knowing from whom you learned it, ¹⁵ and how from childhood you have known the sacred writings that are able to instruct you for salvation through faith in Christ Jesus. ¹⁶ All scripture is inspired by God and is useful for teaching, for reproof, for correction, and for training in righteousness, ¹⁷ so that everyone who belongs to God may be proficient, equipped for every good work.

^{4:1} In the presence of God and of Christ Jesus, who is to judge the living and the dead, and in view of his appearing and his kingdom, I solemnly urge you: ² proclaim the message; be persistent whether the time is favorable or unfavorable; convince, rebuke, and encourage, with the utmost patience in teaching. ³ For the time is coming when people will not put up with sound doctrine, but having itching ears, they will accumulate for themselves teachers to suit their own desires, ⁴ and will turn away from listening to the truth and wander away to myths. ⁵ As for you, always be sober, endure suffering, do the work of an evangelist, carry out your ministry fully.

Word of God, word of life.

Thanks be to God.

Gospel Acclamation p. 151

Alleluia. Lord, to whom shall we go? You have the words of eternal life. Alleluia.

Gospel: Luke 18:1-8

The holy gospel according to St. Luke.

Glory to you, O Lord.

¹Then Jesus told them a parable about their need to pray always and not to lose heart. ²He said, "In a certain city there was a judge who neither feared God nor had respect for people. ³In that city there was a widow who kept coming to him and saying, 'Grant me justice against my opponent.' ⁴For a while he refused; but later he said to himself, 'Though I have no fear of God and no respect for anyone, ⁵yet because this widow keeps bothering me, I will grant her justice, so that she may not wear me out by continually coming.'" ⁶And the Lord said, "Listen to what the unjust judge says. ⁷And will not God grant justice to his chosen ones who cry to him day and night? Will he delay long in helping them? ⁸I tell you, he will quickly grant justice to them. And yet, when the Son of Man comes, will he find faith on earth?"

The gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, O Christ.

Sermon

Children's Sermon

Anthem

Apostles' Creed

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

Renewed in God's everlasting grace, let us pray for the church, the world, and all creation.

A brief silence.

We pray for the church universal. O God, who unites the church across the globe, bring unity and peace to a world divided by hatred and opposition. Turn our hearts toward the gospel of Jesus Christ.

God of grace, **receive our prayer.**

We pray for creation. O God, who made heaven and earth, draw us to the beauty of the whole creation. Turn us toward a right relationship with the entire cosmos.

God of grace, **receive our prayer.**

We pray for all nations, states, cities, and towns. O God, you rule over all the earth. Grant our elected officials (names of officials) humility in their decision-making for the sake of the entire world.

God of grace, **receive our prayer.**

We pray for those who suffer in body, mind, or spirit. O God, who heals and strengthens, our help comes from you in times of need. Support, comfort, and heal those who suffer (especially).

God of grace, **receive our prayer.**

We pray for (name of congregation). O God, who guides this congregation, encourage us to share the good news of Jesus Christ. Nurture our relationships with the community, that we serve and advocate for those who come to us in need.

God of grace, **receive our prayer.**

We pray for peace throughout the world: in our nation, Ukraine, Israel, Gaza, Sudan, and all war-torn areas. We pray for our military and their families.

God of grace, **receive our prayer.**

We offer thanksgiving for the faithful departed. O God, whose promises never end, we thank you for all the saints who have shown us the way of your Son, Jesus Christ (especially).

God of grace, **receive our prayer.**

We offer our prayers, O God, trusting in your everlasting grace and mercy, through Jesus Christ our Lord.

Amen.

Sharing of the Peace

Offering

Great Thanksgiving p. 152

P. The Lord be with you.

C. **And also with you.**

P. Lift up your hearts.

C. **We lift them to the Lord.**

P. Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

C. **It is right to give our thanks and praise.**

Preface p. 153

**Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might,
heav'n and earth are full of your glory. Hosanna in the highest.
Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.
Hosanna in the highest.**

Words of Institution

Christ has died. Christ is risen. Christ will come again. p. 153

Lord's Prayer

Let us pray:

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, for ever and ever. Amen.

Communion p. 154

Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world: have mercy on us.

Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world: have mercy on us.

Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world: grant us peace, grant us peace.

Distribution of Holy Communion

Communion Hymns: When Peace Like A River (#785)
Blest Are They (#728)
Let Us Break Bread Together (#471)

Prayer after Communion

Blessing

Sending Hymn: We Are Marching In The Light of God (#866)

Dismissal

Postlude

PRAYER LIST

Please keep the following in your prayers for healing:

Jen Bailey	Marie Lentine Douglas	Eunice Knopp	Bill Murray	Janice Stronski
Phil Biemuller	Tracey Drew	Karl Knopp	Renate Murray	Bill Todt
Michael Botti	Karen Campbell-Erickson	Naveen Kumar	Erica Polito	George Vaneman, Sr.
Brian Byrnes	Indie Fisher	Donna Leek	Tracey Reagle	George Van Wagner
Randy Cantoral	Rhea Fryor	Rebecca Livingston	Samantha Reed	Beverly Warming
Janet Cappuccio	Bob Garner	Tim McCarthy	Kimberly Rickert	Helen Yezusko
Sandra DeRitis	Angela Guedes	Donald McClure	Ashley Rosser	Bob Zielsdorf
Barbara Doelling	Stan Harmer	Joanne McVelli	Dorcas Schellhas	
Helen Dominic	Valerie Hoffmann	Melanie Miles	Finn Schureman	
Frank Donovan	Ed Kagen	Kent Montford	Frank Siderio III	
Rosemarie Doucette	Tracey Kelly	Sue Murphy	Eric Sprengel	

Please notify the office if you want to add or remove a person from this list.

ALTAR FLOWERS DEDICATION FOR SUNDAY, OCTOBER 19th

Dedicated by Pam Tate in memory of her Mother-in-Law, Susan Sayres on her birthday.

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

Sunday	9:30 am	Sunday Morning Worship Service
	10:30 am	Band Rehearsal
	10:45 am	Sunday School/CIA
	11:15 am	Youth Chime/Vocal Choir
	11:30 am	Bell Choir (<i>every other Sunday</i>)
Wednesday	7:00 pm	Band Rehearsal
Thursday	7:00 pm	Chancel Choir Rehearsal
Ongoing		Shelf Stable Milk Collection Diaper Collection for Baby Pantry, Holy Communion, Berlin Collection of Hygiene Items for First Night Kits
Ending Nov. 1st		
Sunday, October 19th	12:30 pm	Blessing of the Animals
Sunday, October 26th	4:30 pm to 6:30 pm	St. John's Annual Oktoberfest in the Ed Building
Tuesday, November 4th	7:00 pm	Bible Study in the Parish House
Saturday, November 8th	11:30 am	Community Luncheon in the Ed. Building
Monday, November 10th	7:00 pm	Council Meeting in the Parish House

Please note: All activities, dates and times are subject to change.

ALTAR FLOWER DEDICATION

Altar Flowers are available for dedication for \$30. Please fill out the envelope located in the pew rack at least one week before you wish to dedicate the flowers. The card may be placed in the offering plate or left in the office. Please be sure to note the date on the white board in the Narthex. Please see Pat Reed to make payment.



SUNDAY, OCTOBER 19th at 12:30pm

**Paper towel donations for Animal Shelters
will be accepted through the month of October.**



St. John's Social Ministry Initiative in Partnership with Jersey Cares

**will collect hygiene items for First Night Kit Program
until November 1st.**

Flyers in the Narthex for more details.

HOLY COMMUNION LUTHERAN CHURCH OF BERLIN BABY PANTRY NEED



BABY DIAPERS
(especially larger sizes)

**Collection will take place
in the Narthex.**



**We are accepting donations of
Shelf Stable Milk for Our Lady of Peace Food Bank.**
Donations in the form of cash or check will also be welcome.



ST. JOHN'S ANNUAL

**Sunday, October 26th
4:30 pm to 6:30 pm
in the Ed building**

**Seating is limited. Please reserve tickets in advance for dinner and takeout service.
CALL or TEXT Gail @609-313-0800.**

**Tuesday,
November 4th
7:00 pm
in the Parish House**

**Bible
Study**



COMMUNITY LUNCHEON

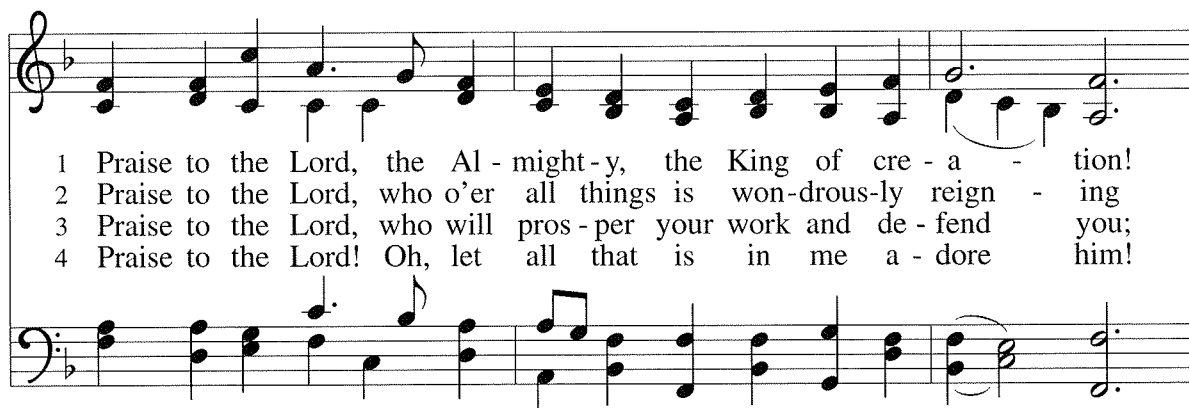
Saturday, November 8th • 11:30 in the Ed. Building.

ALL ARE WELCOME!

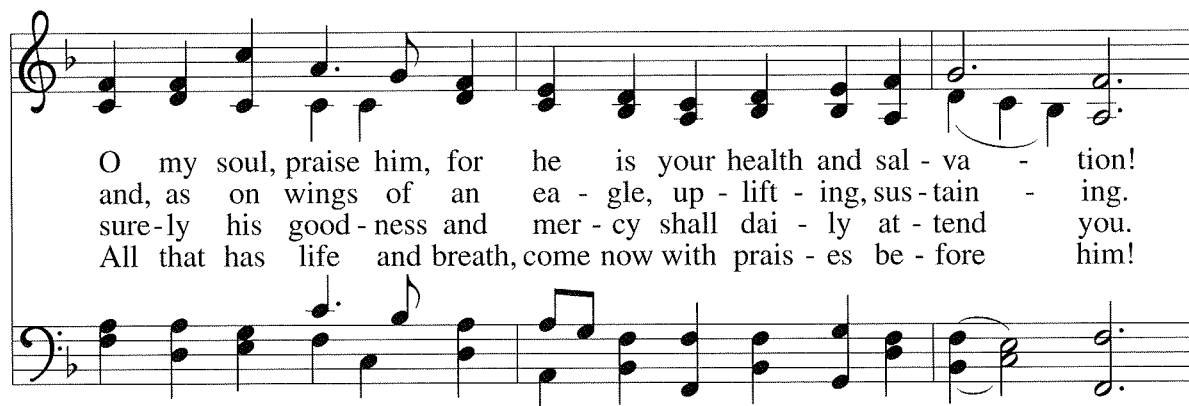
**church council
MEETING**

**Monday, November 10th
7:00 pm in the Parish House**

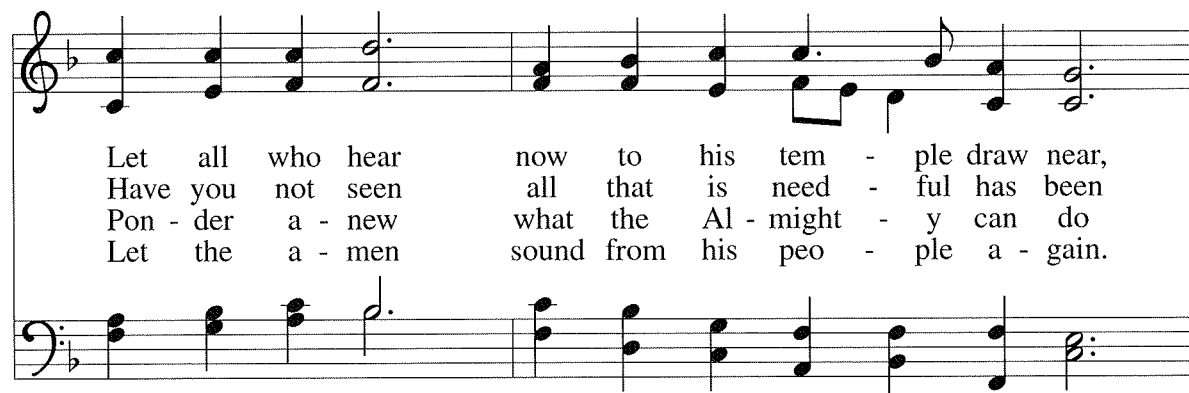
Please note: All activities, dates and times are subject to change.



1 Praise to the Lord, the Al - might - y, the King of cre - a - tion!
 2 Praise to the Lord, who o'er all things is won-drous-ly reign - ing
 3 Praise to the Lord, who will pros-per your work and de-fend you;
 4 Praise to the Lord! Oh, let all that is in me a-dore him!



O my soul, praise him, for he is your health and sal - va - tion!
 and, as on wings of an ea - gle, up - lift - ing, sus-tain - ing.
 sure-ly his good-ness and mer-cy shall dai - ly at-tend you.
 All that has life and breath, come now with prais - es be - fore him!



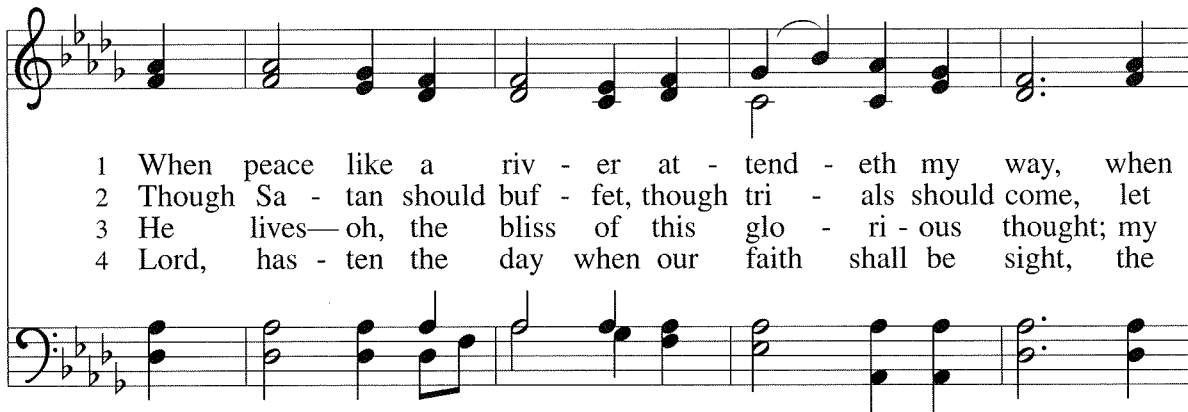
Let all who hear now to his tem - ple draw near,
 Have you not seen all that is need - ful has been
 Pon - der a - new what the Al - might - y can do
 Let the a - men sound from his peo - ple a - gain.



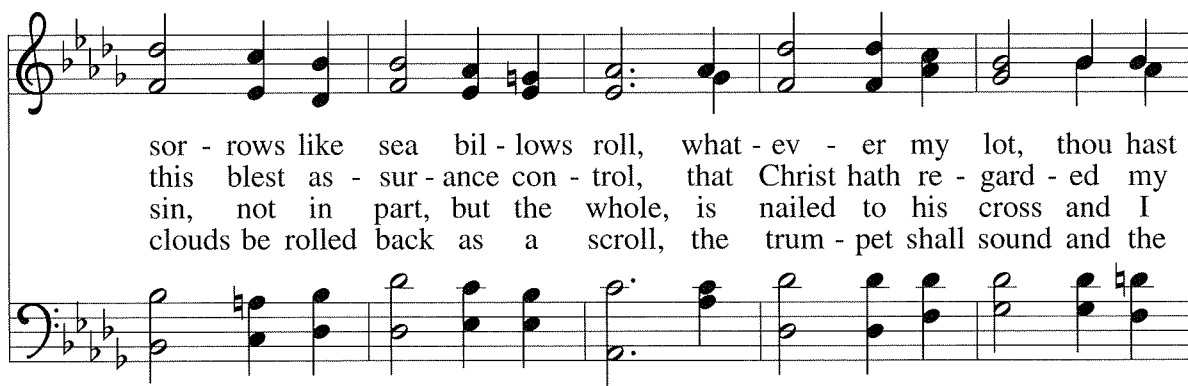
join - ing in glad ad - o - ra - tion!
 sent by his gra - cious or - dain - ing?
 if with his love he be - friend you.
 Glad - ly for - ev - er a - dore him!

When Peace like a River

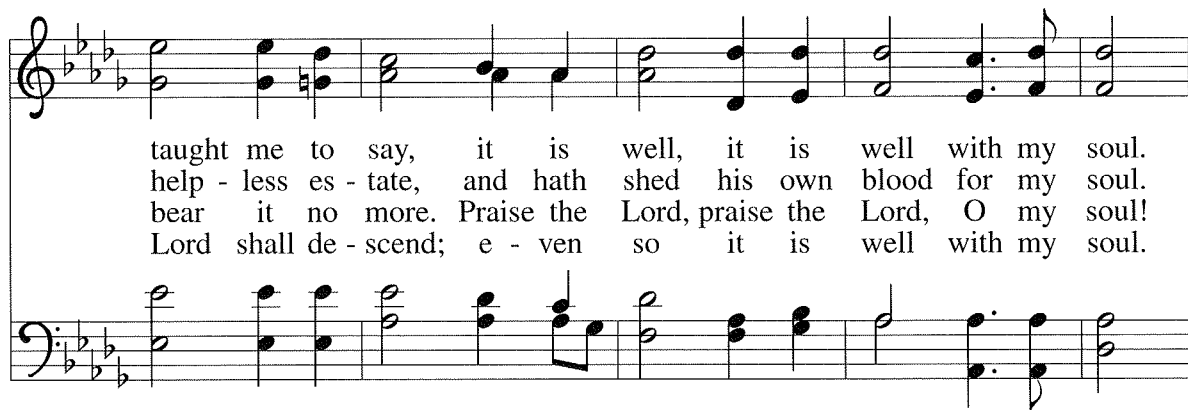
It Is Well with My Soul



1 When peace like a riv - er at - tend - eth my way, when
 2 Though Sa - tan should buf - fet, though tri - als should come, let
 3 He lives—oh, the bliss of this glo - ri - ous thought; my
 4 Lord, has - ten the day when our faith shall be sight, the



sor - rows like sea bil - lows roll, what - ev - er my lot, thou hast
 this blest as - sur - ance con - trol, that Christ hath re - gard - ed my
 sin, not in part, but the whole, is nailed to his cross and I
 clouds be rolled back as a scroll, the trum - pet shall sound and the



taught me to say, it is well, it is well with my soul.
 help - less es - tate, and hath shed his own blood for my soul.
 bear it no more. Praise the Lord, praise the Lord, O my soul!
 Lord shall de - scend; e - ven so it is well with my soul.

Refrain



It is well with my soul, it is well, it is well with my soul.
 It is well with my soul,

Blest Are They

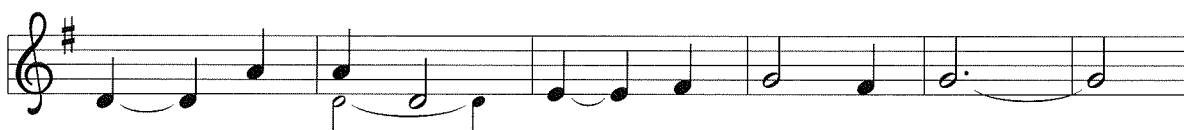
728



1 Blest are they, the poor in spir - it; theirs is the
 2 Blest are they, the low - ly ones; . . . they shall in -
 3 Blest are they who show mer - cy; mer - cy
 4 Blest are they who seek peace; . . they are the
 5 Blest are you who suf - fer hate, . . . all . . . be -



king - dom of God. Blest are they,
 her - it the earth. Blest are they who
 shall . . . be theirs. Blest are they, the
 chil - dren of God. Blest are they who
 cause . . . of me. Re - joice, be glad,



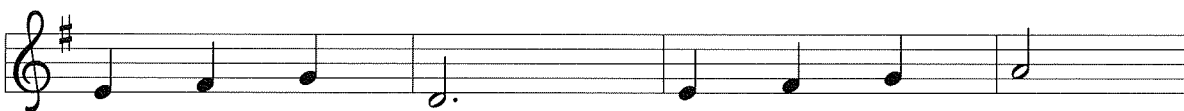
full of sor - row; they shall be con - soled.
 hun - ger and thirst; they shall have their fill.
 pure of heart; they shall see God.
 suf - fer in faith; the glo - ry of God is theirs.
 yours is the king - dom; shine for all to see.

Refrain

All



Re - joice and be glad!



Bless - ed are you, ho - ly are you!



Re - joice and be glad!



Yours is the king - dom of God!

Text: David Haas, b. 1957

Music: David Haas

Text and music © 1985 GIA Publications, Inc.

BLEST ARE THEY

Irregular

Let Us Break Bread Together

471

1 Let us break bread to - geth - er on our knees;
2 Let us drink wine to - geth - er on our knees;
3 Let us praise God to - geth - er on our knees;

The first system of the song features a treble and bass staff in B-flat major. The melody is in the treble staff, and the accompaniment is in the bass staff. The lyrics are written below the treble staff, with three parts: 1. Let us break bread to - geth - er on our knees; 2. Let us drink wine to - geth - er on our knees; 3. Let us praise God to - geth - er on our knees;.

let us break bread to - geth - er on our knees.
let us drink wine to - geth - er on our knees.
let us praise God to - geth - er on our knees.

The second system continues the melody and accompaniment from the first system. The lyrics are written below the treble staff, with three parts: let us break bread to - geth - er on our knees. let us drink wine to - geth - er on our knees. let us praise God to - geth - er on our knees.

Refrain
When I fall on my knees, with my face to the ris - ing

The Refrain section begins with a treble and bass staff in B-flat major. The melody is in the treble staff, and the accompaniment is in the bass staff. The lyrics are written below the treble staff, with the text: When I fall on my knees, with my face to the ris - ing.

sun, O Lord, have mer - cy on me.

The final system of the song features a treble and bass staff in B-flat major. The melody is in the treble staff, and the accompaniment is in the bass staff. The lyrics are written below the treble staff, with the text: sun, O Lord, have mer - cy on me.

We Are Marching in the Light

866

Siyahamba

Si - ya - hamb' e - ku - kha - nyen' kwen - khos', si - ya - hamb' e - ku - kha - nyen' kwen - khos'

We are march - ing in the light of God, we are march - ing in the

nyen' kwen - khos'. Si - ya - hamb' e - ku - kha - nyen' kwen - khos', nyen' kwen - khos'

light of God. We are march - ing in the light of God,

si - ya - hamb' e - ku - kha - nyen' kwen - khos'. si - ya - hamb' e - ku - kha - nyen' kwen - khos'

we are march - ing in the light of God.

si - ya - hamb' e - ku - kha - nyen' kwen - khos'. si - ya - hamb' e - ku - kha - nyen' kwen - khos'

we are march - ing in the light of God.

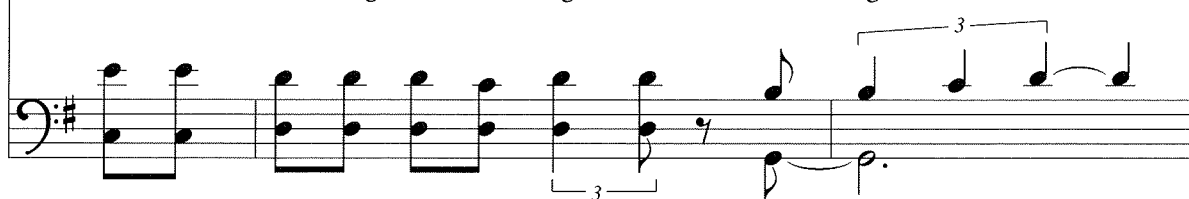
Si - ya - ham - ba oo
We are march - ing oo

Si - ya - ham - ba, ham - ba, si - ya - ham - ba, ham - ba, We are march - ing, march - ing, we are march - ing, march - ing,

si - ya - hamb' e - ku - kha - nyen' kwen - khos'.
we are march-ing in the light of God.



si - ya - hamb' e - ku - kha - nyen' kwen—, kha - nyen' kwen - khos'.
we are march - ing in the light of, the light of God.



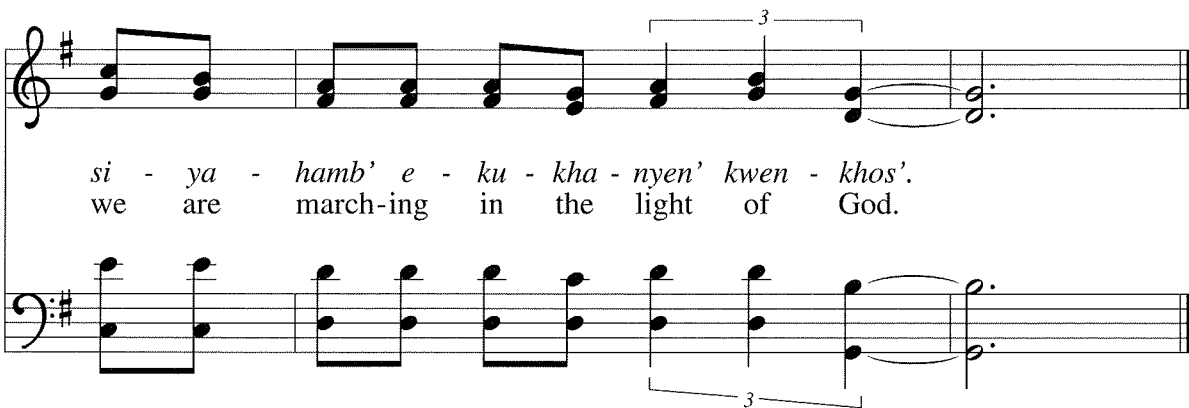
si - ya - hamb' e - ku - kha - nyen' kwen - khos'.
we are march - ing in the light of God.

Si - ya - ham - ba
We are march - ing

oo
oo



Si - ya - ham - ba, ham - ba, si - ya - ham - ba, ham - ba,
We are march - ing, march - ing, we are march - ing, march - ing,



si - ya - hamb' e - ku - kha - nyen' kwen - khos'.
we are march-ing in the light of God.

Additional stanzas ad lib.:
We are dancing ...
We are praying ...
We are singing ...



ST. JOHN'S ANNUAL

Sunday, October 26th
4:30 pm to 6:30 pm
in the Ed building

Seating is limited. Please reserve tickets in advance for dinner and takeout service.
CALL or TEXT Gail @609-313-0800.

Save Time . . . no need for checks or envelopes

ELCA-Endorsed Tithe.ly giving platform enables you to tithe online or using the app.

- From your checking account or using your debit/credit card
- One-time donation or set up for recurring giving
- Designate specific ministry for your donation
- Scan the QR code to get started
- For assistance or questions, contact Tom Schofield or Henry Fickenscher



ST. JOHN EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH

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Phone Number: 1-856-875-8742 • Email: stjohnslutheran1002@yahoo.com

Website: www.stjohnselc1002.org

ST. JOHN'S STAFF

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Deacons: Betsey Eley/Ken Weaver
Administrative Coordinator: Pat Reed
Treasurer: Henry Fickenscher
Head Usher: Ted Adams

Music Director: Janice Smith
Instrumental Music Director: Ken Weaver
Sexton: Betsey Eley
Webmaster: Tom Schofield
Publications Director: Marie Fickenscher

