

February 1, 2026
Fourth Sunday after Epiphany
Communion
10:15 AM

+ GATHERING +

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

WELCOME AND GREETING

PRELUDE Lamb of God - Alice Jordan

LIGHTING OF 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

GATHERING HYMN ELW 522 As We Gather at Your Table

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

Blessed be the holy Trinity, one God, the Creator of heaven and earth, the Word who spoke life into being, the Wind stirring the waters. **Amen.**

Let us turn in confession to the one who knows us completely.

Mighty God, lover of justice,

you call us to life in community, but we have served our own interests at the expense of our neighbors. We have sown deceit where honesty was needed. We say the right words, but our hearts are far from you. Turn us to seek your face. Knit us together and give us the mind of Christ, that we may do justice, love mercy, and walk humbly with you, our God. Amen.

The former things have passed away, and new things God now declares: Like a spring of water that never fails, God covers you in the righteousness of Christ, and forgives your sin in † Jesus' name. May the Spirit give you strength to live for others, and bless you with the gift of peace.

Amen.

PRAYER OF THE DAY

Holy God, you confound the world's wisdom in giving your kingdom to the lowly and the pure in heart. Give us such a hunger and thirst for justice, and perseverance in striving for peace, that in our words and deeds the world may see the life of your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

Amen.

+ WORD +

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

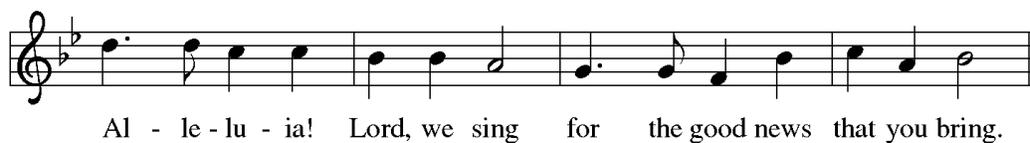
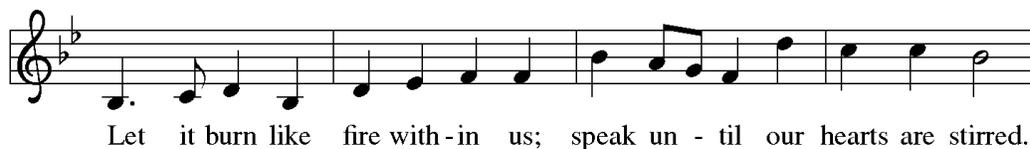
FIRST READING: Micah 6:1-8

At the conclusion of the reading:
The Word of the Lord.
Thanks be to God.

SECOND READING: I Corinthians 1:18-31

At the conclusion of the reading:
The Word of the Lord.
Thanks be to God.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION



GOSPEL: Matthew 5:1-12

At the beginning of the reading:
The holy gospel according to Matthew.
Glory to you, O Lord.

At the conclusion of the reading:
This is the gospel of the Lord.
Praise to you, O Christ.

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

SERMON

HYMN OF THE DAY ELW 710 Let Streams of Living Justice

PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

Each petition will end:
Merciful God,
receive our prayer.

The prayers conclude:

Confident that the Holy Spirit receives our prayers and answers us, we commend all for whom we pray to God's loving-kindness made known to us in Christ Jesus our Savior. **Amen.**

+ MEAL +

God feeds us with the presence of Jesus Christ.

OFFERING

MUSICAL OFFERING Come, Ye Sinners, Poor and Needy - Howard Helvey

OFFERTORY



1 Ac - cept, O Lord, the gifts we bring to place up - on your ta - ble.
2 The vines were plant - ed, seeds were sown. They grew in your good plea - sure.



We do not wor - ship as we ought but on - ly as we're a - ble.
What once was com - mon, dail - y food be - comes a ho - ly trea - sure.

OFFERING PRAYER

God of majesty, no eye has seen, no ear has heard what you have prepared for those who love you, yet in this meal you reveal the wideness of your mercy. Use what we have gathered to feed us with the reign of God come near, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. **Amen.**

THE GREAT THANKSGIVING

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.

It is indeed right, our duty and our joy...And so, with all the choirs of angels, with the church on earth and the hosts of heaven, we praise your name and join their unending hymn:



Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow-er and might,



heav'n and earth are full of your glo-ry. Ho-san - na in the high - est.



Bless - ed is he who comes in the name of the Lord. Ho -



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

WORDS OF INSTITUTION

LORD'S PRAYER

Lord, remember us in your kingdom and teach us to 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, forever and ever. Amen.

INVITATION TO COMMUNION

These are the gifts of God for the people of God.

Thanks be to God.

LAMB OF GOD



1 O Lamb of God, you bear the sin of all the world a - way;

2 O Lamb of God, you bear the sin of all the world a - way;

3 O Lamb of God, you bear the sin of all the world a - way;



you suf-fered death our lives to save: have mer-cy now, we pray.

you set us free from guilt and grave: have mer-cy now, we pray.

e - ter-nal peace with God you made: give us your peace, we pray.

COMMUNION INSTRUCTIONS

MUSIC DURING COMMUNION ELW 588 There's a Wideness in God's Mercy

TABLE BLESSING

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

Radiant God, we have seen your glory in the face of Jesus Christ. In the sacrament of his body and blood you have drawn us to your heart. Send us from this table with delight, that our lives may reflect the beauty of your love, and bear witness to all we have seen and heard, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. **Amen.**

+ SENDING +

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

ANNOUNCEMENTS

BLESSING

May the triune God,
who has put a new song in your mouth
and tuned your heart for praise
bless you now and forever.

Amen

SENDING SONG ELW 551 The Spirit Sends Us Forth to Serve

DISMISSAL

Go in peace. Do justice. Love mercy.

Thanks be to God.

POSTLUDE Chesterfield - Healey Willan

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PRAYER LIST

Please continue to keep the following people connected to our congregation in your prayers: Bob Moran, Leonard Gibeon, David Mounts, Ed & Billie Schanely, Steve Keyser, Andrew Breuninger, Renee Fels, Rebecca Jellen, Richard Ditzler, Joy Miller, Alyson Harvey, Audrey Sell, Marie Wolfe, Erik Ockenlaender, Mary Eberle, Brandon Blanchard, Gladys Kazalonis, Elizabeth Brossett and family, John Moore, Paige Seasock, Tanner Antalosky, Bob Schanely, Will Morgan and Richard Mitchell.

Mark Your Calendar

Wednesday, Feb. 4	7pm Confirmation Learning
Saturday, Feb. 7	9-11am The Open Link Food Collection 10am-1:30pm Leadership Retreat
Sunday, February 8	8am Worship 9am Sunday School 10:15 Worship

The Lent Newsletter is in production. Please submit anything you'd like included Today!

College student addresses are being collected as we anticipate sending care packages this winter. If you have a college student in your household, please share his/her mailing address with us! Send in your student's address to the church office, email stj.stown@verizon.net!

RISE Against Hunger NEW DATE is March 22nd. The new sign up will be available in the next weekly email.

The Great Soup Showdown has been rescheduled for Sunday, March 15th following worship. Plan to bring a soup or come to taste and help judge!

The Roof Fundraiser Spaghetti Dinner has been rescheduled to Saturday, February 28th from 5-7pm. The event is sponsored by Heavenly Helpers who will be repairing a roof for a family in April.

Sign up for the Sunday morning coffee bar outside of Pastor Becky's office.

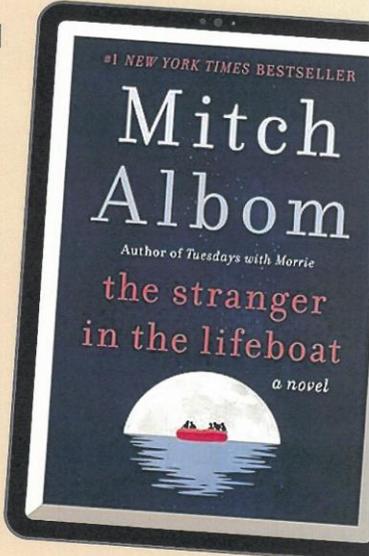
Superbowl Grids—they are in the weekly email, sign up today!

St. John's & Friedens Book Group

Breakfast & coffee served

Saturday
February 21, 2026
9:30AM
at Friedens UCC

We will be discussing the novel
The Stranger in the lifeboat
by Mitch Albom



Questions?
Email Pastor Becky pastorbecky74@gmail.com
Email Pastor Stephanie pastor.friedensucc@gmail.com



Soup & Study – Lent 2026

A Different Way to Journey Through Lent
Where Faith Finds Color

Mondays in Lent | 5:30–7:00 p.m.

Begins Monday, February 23, 2026

St. John's Lutheran Church, Sumneytown

We'll share a simple meal, meaningful conversation, and time to reflect together using Coloring Lent. This group invites us to talk and color side by side, creating space for reflection, discussion, and quiet moments along the way. The book will also serve as a personal devotional guide throughout Lent, from Ash Wednesday to Easter.

Book: Coloring Lent: An Adult Coloring Book for the Journey to Resurrection

Books are available for \$10

from Pastor Becky, St. John's (pastorbecky74@gmail.com)
or Pastor Stephanie, Friedens (pastor.friedensucc@gmail.com)



**Please bring your own coloring supplies
to the Monday gatherings:**

**crayons, markers,
or colored pencils.**

No artistic experience needed.

All are welcome.