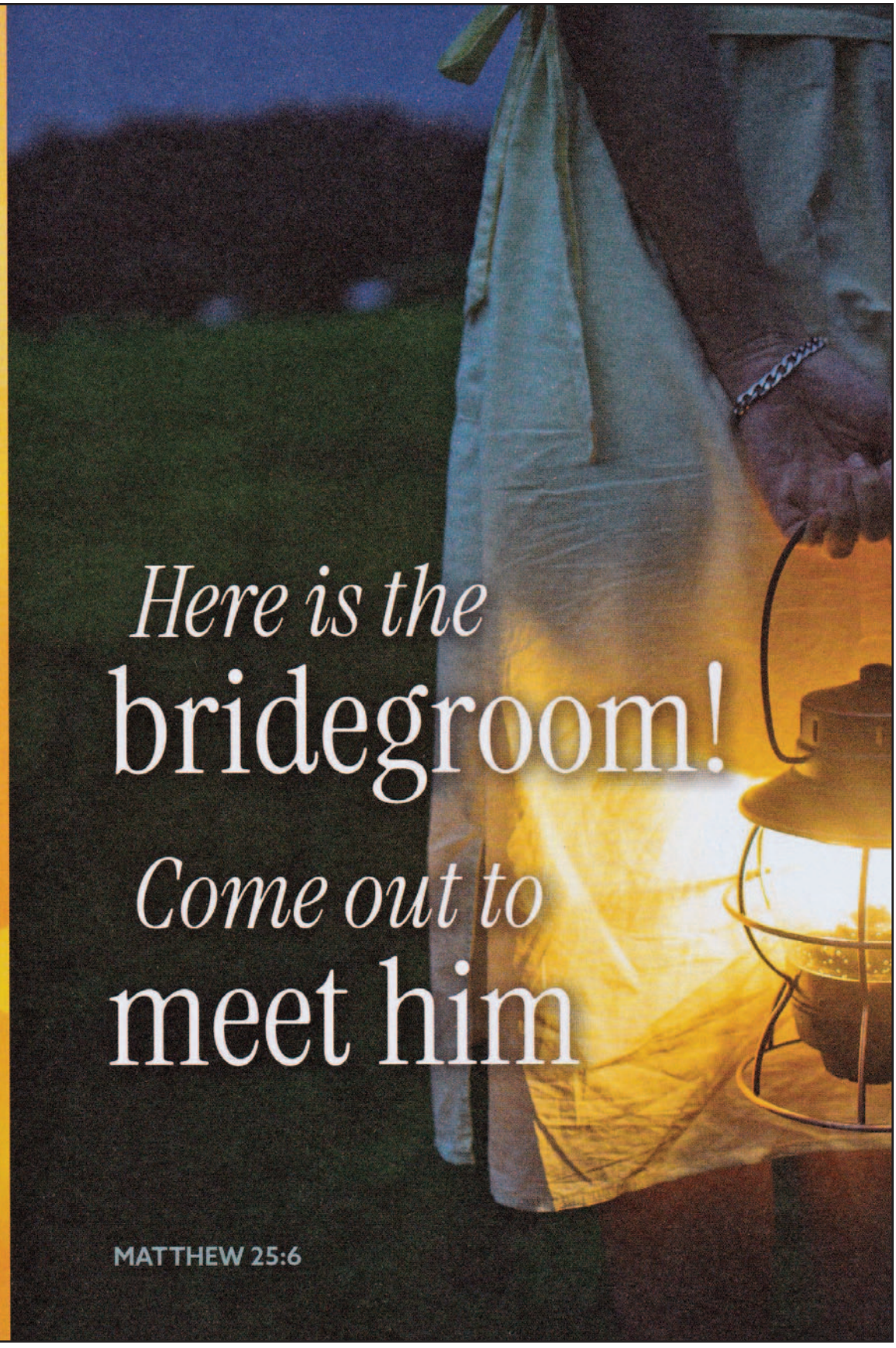
St. John Lutheran Church



Cover: Female holding vintage lantern. Photo by skaman306. Copyright © 2025 Getty Images Plus via Getty Images/Moments Collection. Used by permission.

Scripture quotations from the New Revised Standard Version Updated Edition, Copyright © 2021 National Council of Churches of Christ in the United States of America. Used by permission. All rights reserved worldwide. Revised Common Lectionary copyright © 1992 by the Consultation on Common Texts (CCT), admin. Augsburg Fortress. All rights reserved. Used by permission. Please visit our website at www.augsburgfortress.org.

Copyright © 2026 Augsburg Fortress. All rights reserved. May not be reproduced. Printed in U.S.A.

Tracks 1 and 2
20261108-LEC32 **ITEM014781** ELCA-K

ST. JOHN EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH

The Rev. Tammy P. Harmer

Deacon Betsey Eley & Deacon Ken Weaver

24th Sunday after Pentecost • November 8, 2026

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: My Lord What a Morning (#438)

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 God of justice and love, you illumine our way through life with the words of your Son. Give us the light we need, and awaken us to the needs of others, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. **Amen**.

Word

First Reading: Amos 5:18-24

18 Woe to you who desire the day of the Lord! Why do you want the day of the Lord? It is darkness, not light,
19 as if someone fled from a lion and was met by a bear or went into the house and rested a hand against the wall and was bitten by a snake.
20 Is not the day of the Lord darkness, not light, and gloom with no brightness in it?
21 I hate, I despise your festivals, and I take no delight in your solemn assemblies.
22 Even though you offer me your burnt offerings and grain offerings, I will not accept them, and the offerings of well-being of your fatted animals I will not look upon.
23 Take away from me the noise of your songs; I will not listen to the melody of your harps.
24 But let justice roll down like water and righteousness like an ever-flowing stream.

Word of God, word of life.
Thanks be to God.

Psalm 70

Response: "You are my helper and my deliverer; O Lord, do not tarry."

1 Be pleased, O God, to deliver me; O Lord, make haste to help me.
2 **Let those who seek my life be put to shame and confounded; let those who take pleasure in my misfortune draw back and be disgraced. R**
3 Let those who say to me "Aha!" and gloat over me turn back because of their shame.
4 **Let all who seek you rejoice and be glad in you; let those who love your salvation say forever, "Great**

is the Lord!"
5 But as for me, I am poor and needy; come to me quickly, O God. You are my helper and my deliverer; O Lord, do not tarry. **R**

Second Reading: 1 Thessalonians 4:13-18

13We do not want you to be uninformed, brothers and sisters, about those who have died, so that you may not grieve as others do who have no hope. 14 For since we believe that Jesus died and rose again, even so, through Jesus, God will bring with him those who have died. 15 For this we declare to you by the word of the Lord, that we who are alive, who are left until the coming of the Lord, will by no means precede those who have died. 16 For the Lord himself, with a cry of command, with the archangel's call and with the sound of God's trumpet, will descend from heaven, and the dead in Christ will rise first. 17 Then we who are alive, who are left, will be caught up in the clouds together with them to meet the Lord in the air, and so we will be with the Lord forever. 18 Therefore encourage one another with these words.

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: Matthew 25:1-13

The holy gospel according to St. Matthew.

Glory to you, O Lord.

[Jesus said to the disciples:] 1 "Then the kingdom of heaven will be like this. Ten young women took their lamps and went to meet the bridegroom. 2 Five of them were foolish, and five were wise. 3 When the foolish took their lamps, they took no oil with them, 4 but the wise took flasks of oil with their lamps. 5 As the bridegroom was delayed, all of them became drowsy and slept. 6 But at midnight there was a shout, 'Look! Here is the bridegroom! Come out to meet him.' 7 Then all those young women got up and trimmed their lamps. 8 The foolish said to the wise, 'Give us some of your oil, for our lamps are going out.' 9 But the wise replied, 'No! there will not be enough for you and for us; you had better go to the dealers and buy some for yourselves.' 10 And while they went to buy it, the bridegroom came, and those who were ready went with him into the wedding banquet, and the door was shut. 11 Later the other young women came also, saying, 'Lord, lord, open to us.' 12 But he replied, 'Truly I tell you, I do not know you.' 13 Keep awake, therefore, for you know neither the day nor the hour."

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

United with the great cloud of witnesses, we offer our prayers for the church, the world, and all of creation.

A brief silence.

You illumine the church with the hope of your new day. Prepare our hearts and minds for the inbreaking of your kingdom, that we might awaken to your transforming love at work all around us.

God, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

You create and sustain the earth's natural rhythms so that all life might thrive. Show us the wisdom and wonder of nature's balance; make us careful stewards of our common home.

God, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

You make justice roll down in all places and among all nations. Encourage all who protect vulnerable communities and help rebuild in the aftermath of conflict (relief ministries or organizations may be named). Uphold veterans and those who care for them.

God, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

You hasten to heal our wounds and make whole what is broken. Comfort individuals facing a difficult diagnosis, receiving palliative care, or facing uncertain treatment options. (We pray especially for . . .)

God, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

You give rest to weary hearts and bodies. As the days grow shorter in the north, help us to move more slowly and intentionally through our days, honoring the need for quiet and stillness.

God, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

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

God, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

You welcome those who have come before us in faith into the joys of heaven. Sustain us by your grace and guide us into the promise of everlasting life.

God, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

Into your steadfast love, faithful God, we entrust all for whom we pray, in the name of Jesus, your beloved. **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: As We Gather at the Table (#522)
Blessed Assurance (#638)
Let Us Break Bread Together (#471)

Prayer after Communion

Blessing

Sending Hymn: Soon and Very Soon (#439)

Dismissal

Postlude

ALTAR FLOWERS DEDICATION FOR SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 8th

Dedicated by Bill and Mary Jean Fries in honor of their 50th Wedding Anniversary.

Dedicated by Martha Marshall in memory of her parents, Phil and Ruth Biemuller.

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

Sunday	9:30 am	Sunday Morning Worship Service
	After Worship Service	Coffee Hour
	10:45 am	Sunday School/CIA
	After Worship Service	Band Rehearsal
Wednesday	7:00 pm	Band Rehearsal
Thursday	7:00 pm	Chancel Choir Rehearsal
Ongoing		Shelf Stable Milk Collection
		Diaper Collection for Pantry, Holy Communion, Berlin
		Harvest Home Donations through November 22nd
Monday, November 9th	7:00 pm	Council Meeting in the Parish House
Tuesday, November 10th	7:00 pm	Bible Study in the Parish House
Saturday, November 14th	11:30 am	Community Luncheon in the Ed. Building
Sunday, November 15th	11:30 am-12:30 pm	Confirmation Class in the Parish House
Wednesday, November 18th	7:00 pm	Grief Gathering in the Parish House Tea Room
Friday, November 20th	7:00 pm Games Begin	Designer Bag Bingo in the Ed. Building
Sunday, November 22nd	4:00 pm	Community Thanksgiving Service at First United Methodist

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

PRAYER LIST

Please keep the following in your prayers for healing:

Jen Bailey	Helen Dominic	Michelle Walk Hewitt	Emily Meighan	Gladys Sheppard
Krystal Booras	Frank Donovan	Ella Hirsch	Melanie Miles	Meilani Showell
Michael Botti	Marie Lentine Douglas	Valerie Hoffmann	Bill Murray	Frank Siderio III
Brian Byrnes	Tracey Drew	Makenzie Jack	Renate Murray	Maryann Smith
Barbara Cadwaller	Indie Fisher	Ed Kagen	Erica Polito	Bill Steel
Meadow Cantoral	Kayla Friant	Tracey Kelly	Samantha Reed	Carol Taylor
Randy Cantoral	Stephanie Friant	Deb Kuhn	Howard Rolette	George Vaneman, Sr.
Debbie Capasso	Rhea Fryor	Donna Leek	Ashley Rosser	George Van Wagner
Janet Cappuccio	Ashley Fuhrman	Doug Levandowski	Dorcas Schellhas	Beverly Warming
Joe Condoli	Angela Guedes	Tim McCarthy	Jean Schlotz	Mary White
Sandra DeRitis	Stan Harmer	Joanne McVelli	Finn Schureman	

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

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 leave payment in the Church Office.

WORSHIP BULLETIN DEDICATION

Dedicated by Henry and Marie Fickenscher in memory of and in honor of their loved ones,



GOOD NEWS!

COFFEE HOUR

Sunday after the Worship Service

(unless otherwise announced)

Join us for food, beverages and fellowship!

My Lord, What a Morning 438



Text: African American spiritual
Music: African American spiritual

BURLEIGH
6 8 7 7 and refrain

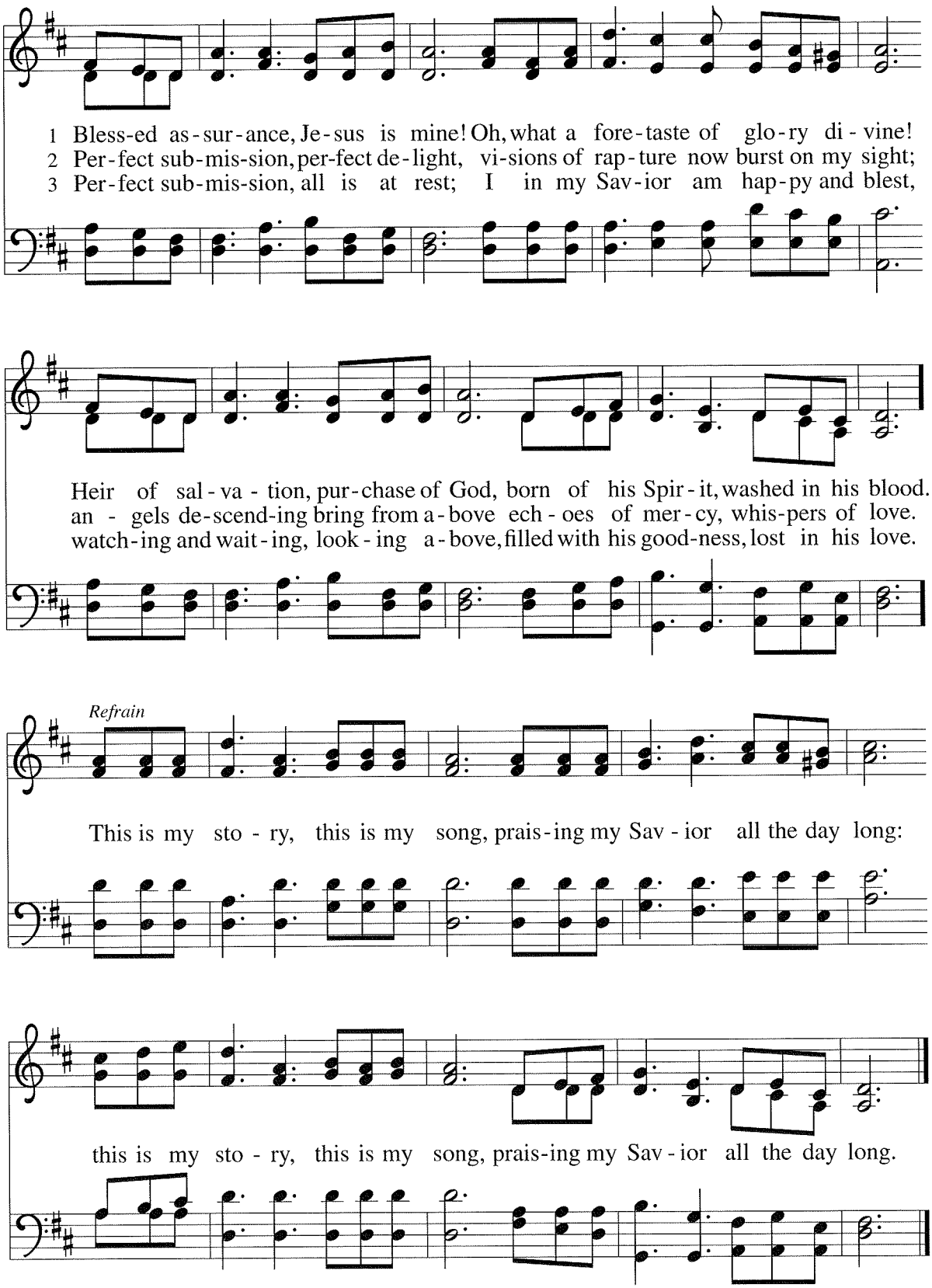
522 As We Gather at Your Table



Text: Carl P. Daw Jr., b. 1944
Music: *Oude en Nieuwe Hollantse Boerenlities en Contradansen*, 1710; arr. Julius Röntgen, 1855–1932
Text © 1989 Hope Publishing Company

IN BABILONE
8 7 8 7 D

638 Blessed Assurance



Text: Fanny J. Crosby, 1820–1915
Music: Phoebe P. Knapp, 1830–1908

ASSURANCE
9 10 9 9 and refrain

Let Us Break Bread Together 471



Text: African American spiritual
Music: African American spiritual

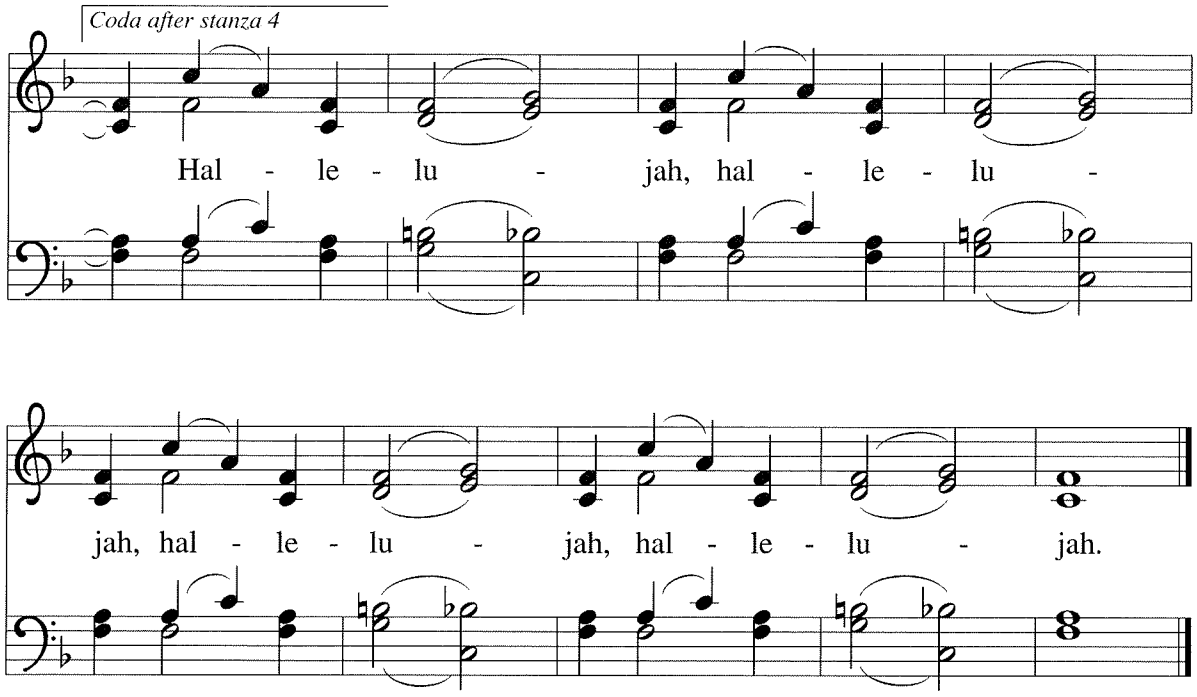
BREAK BREAD TOGETHER
10 10 and refrain

439 Soon and Very Soon



Text: Andraé Crouch, b. 1945
Music: Andraé Crouch
Text and music © 1976 Bud John Songs, Inc./Crouch Music, admin. EMI Christian Music Publishing

VERY SOON
12 12 12 and refrain



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



CHURCH COUNCIL MEETING

Monday, November 9th
7:00 pm in the Parish House



Tuesday, November 10th
at 7:00 pm
in the Parish House

COMMUNITY LUNCHEON

All are welcome!

Saturday, November 14th • 11:30 in the Ed. Building



CONFIRMATION CLASS

Sunday, November 15th
11:30 am–12:30 pm
In the Parish House



GRIEF GATHERING

Wednesday, November 18th
7:00 pm in the Parish House Tea Room

All Are Welcome!



Sunday, November 22, 2026 • 4:00 pm
FIRST UNITED METHODIST CHURCH
OF WILLIAMSTOWN
159 S Main St, Williamstown, NJ

ST. JOHN'S HARVEST HOME

Donations accepted through November 22nd

Help our Sunday School gather items for families with food insecurities this holiday season.

St. John's Annual Christmas Concert

Saturday
December 5th
Time: 5:00 pm

Holy Communion Lutheran Church of Berlin Baby Pantry need:



BABY DIAPERS
(especially larger sizes)
Collection is in the Narthex.



Please help us . . .

Donate Shelf Stable Milk for Our Lady of Peace Food Bank.

Donations in the form of cash or check will also be welcome.

ST. JOHN EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH

1002 S. Main Street Williamstown, NJ 08094

Pastor: The Rev. Tammy Harmer

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

Website: www.stjohnselc1002.org

ST. JOHN'S STAFF

Deacons: Betsey Eley/Ken Weaver
Treasurer: Henry Fickenscher
Music Director/Choirmaster: Janice Smith
Instrumental Music Director: Ken Weaver
Head Usher: Ted Adams
Sexton: Betsey Eley
Webmaster: Tom Schofield
Publications Director: Marie Fickenscher



St. John's Lutheran Church

970 B South Main Street, Williamstown

Bags, Bingo, and Big Blessings!

Can I Get an AMEN . . . and a Michael Kors?

Coach • Kate Spade • Michael Kors • Dooney and Bourke

Friday, Nov. 20th

Doors Open 6 PM | Games 7 to 10 PM

$40 per ticket includes 3 dauber cards per game

Lots of Friends? Reserve a table (10 people)

- 10 games • Basket Raffles • 50/50
- Complimentary desserts and coffee
- Beverages, soft pretzels and daubers available for purchase
- Must be 18 or older to play

To purchase tickets ONLINE scan here:
or contact: Stephanie Weist
at (856) 912-9875 or sch8730@msn.com