

# **Welcome to St. John's Lutheran Church**



Twelfth Sunday after Pentecost

Holy Communion

August 16, 2026

*God's Work/Our Hands*

St. John's Lutheran Church

5<sup>th</sup> and Race Streets (PO Box B)

Mifflinville, PA 18631

570-752-2289

[stjohnsmifflin@verizon.net](mailto:stjohnsmifflin@verizon.net)

[www.stjohnslutheranmifflinville.com](http://www.stjohnslutheranmifflinville.com)

Rev. Daniel Warntz, pastor

Twelfth Sunday after Pentecost  
Holy Communion  
August 16, 2026  
*God's Work/Our Hands*

PRELUDE

WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

**P** Blessed be the holy Trinity, † one God,  
whose compassion endures forever.

**C** Amen.

**P** Let us confess our sin to God.

Compassionate God,

**C** we confess to you all our sins.

**Our burden is heavy, and we cannot free ourselves.**

**In your mercy, call us back to you.**

**Your yoke is easy and your burden is light.**

**Restore us to dwell in your peace.**

**In Christ's name we pray,**

**Amen.**

**P** Jesus says, "Come to me,  
all you who are weary  
and are carrying heavy burdens,  
and I will give you rest."

In the name of God,

Father, † Son, and Holy Spirit,  
your sins are forgiven.

Rest in God's love.

**C** Amen.

## Build a Longer Table



1 Build a long - er ta - ble, not a high - er wall,  
 2 Build a saf - er ref - uge, not a larg - er jail;  
 3 Build a broad - er door - way, not a long - er fence.  
 4 When we lived as ex - iles, ref - u - gees a - broad,



feed - ing those who hun - ger, mak - ing room for all.  
 where the weak find shel - ter, mer - cy will not fail.  
 Love pro - tects all peo - ple, spar - ing no ex - pense.  
 Christ be - came our door - way to the reign of God.



Feast - ing to - geth - er, strang - er turns to friend,  
 For an - y place where jus - tice is de - nied,  
 When we em - brace com - pas - sion more than fear,  
 So must our ta - bles wel - come those who roam.



Christ breaks walls to piec - es; false di - vi - sions end.  
 Christ will breach the jail wall, free - ing all in - side.  
 Christ tears down our fenc - es; all are wel - come here.  
 None can be ex - clud - ed; all must find a home.

Text: David Bjorlin, b. 1984

Music: NOËL NOUVELET, French carol

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## 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.

## CANTICLE OF PRAISE



1 Glo-ry be to God in heav-en; peace, good-will to all the earth.  
2 Glo-ry be to Christ for - ev - er, Lamb of God and Lord of love.  
3 Ho - ly One we now ac-claim you; Lord a - lone, to you we call;



Might-y God of all cre - a - tion, Fa - ther of sur - pass - ing worth:  
Son of God and gra - cious Sav - ior, you have come from heav'n a - bove;  
Ho - ly One in faith we name you, God most high, yet near to all:



we ex - alt you, we a - dore you, we lift high our thanks and praise.  
on the cross you died to save us; now you reign at God's right hand.  
Je - sus Christ, with God the Spir - it, in the Fa - ther's splen - dor bright.



Saints and an - gels bow be - fore you; here on earth our songs we raise.  
Hear our prayer; re - store, for - give us; in your prom - ise firm we stand.  
For the peace that we in - her - it, glo - ry be to God on high!

## PRAYER OF THE DAY

**P** Let us pray.

God of all peoples, your arms reach out to embrace all those who call upon you. Teach us as disciples of your Son to love the world with compassion and constancy, that your name may be known throughout the earth, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

**C** Amen.

FIRST READING: Isaiah 56:1, 6-8

*The prophet calls upon Israel to do justice in view of God's imminent intervention to save. Righteousness and obedience define who belongs to the Israelite community—not race, nationality, or any other category.*

<sup>1</sup> Thus says the LORD:

Maintain justice, and do what is right,  
for soon my salvation will come,  
and my deliverance be revealed.

<sup>6</sup> And the foreigners who join themselves to the LORD,  
to minister to the LORD, to love the name of the LORD,  
and to be the LORD's servants,  
all who keep the sabbath, and do not profane it,  
and hold fast my covenant—

<sup>7</sup> these I will bring to my holy mountain,  
and make them joyful in my house of prayer;  
their burnt offerings and their sacrifices  
will be accepted on my altar;  
for my house shall be called a house of prayer  
for all peoples.

<sup>8</sup> Thus says the Lord God,  
who gathers the outcasts of Israel,  
I will gather others to them  
besides those already gathered.

The word of the Lord.

**C** Thanks be to God.

PSALM: Psalm 67

Let all the peoples praise you, O God. (*Ps. 67:3*)

<sup>1</sup> May God be merciful to us and bless us;  
may the light of God's face shine upon us.

<sup>2</sup> **Let your way be known upon earth,  
your saving health among all nations.**

<sup>3</sup> Let the peoples praise you, O God;  
let all the peoples praise you.

<sup>4</sup> **Let the nations be glad and sing for joy,  
for you judge the peoples with equity and guide all  
the nations on earth.**

<sup>5</sup> Let the peoples praise you, O God;  
let all the peoples praise you.

<sup>6</sup> **The earth has brought forth its increase;  
God, our own God, has blessed us.**

<sup>7</sup> May God give us blessing,  
and may all the ends of the earth stand in awe.

SECOND READING: Romans 11:1-2a, 29-32

A reading from Romans.

*God has not rejected Israel. Rather, the call and gifts of God are irrevocable so that, while all have been disobedient, God has mercy upon all.*

[Paul writes:] <sup>1</sup> I ask, then, has God rejected the chosen people? By no means! I myself am an Israelite, a descendant of Abraham, a member of the tribe of Benjamin. <sup>2a</sup> God has not rejected the people whom ages ago God chose.

<sup>29</sup> For the gifts and the calling of God are irrevocable. <sup>30</sup> Just as you were once disobedient to God but have now received mercy because of their disobedience, <sup>31</sup> so they have now been disobedient in order that, by the mercy shown to you, they too may now receive mercy. <sup>32</sup> For God has imprisoned all in disobedience in order to be merciful to all.

The word of the Lord.

☒ **Thanks be to God.**

*Stand for Gospel Acclamation*



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: Matthew 15:[10-20] 21-28

☐ The holy gospel according to St. Matthew, the fifteenth chapter.

☑ Glory to you, O Lord.

*Jesus teaches his disciples that true purity is a matter of the heart rather than outward religious observances. Almost immediately, this teaching is tested when a woman considered to be a religious outsider approaches him for help.*

[<sup>10</sup> [Jesus] called the crowd to him and said to them, “Listen and understand: <sup>11</sup> it is not what goes into the mouth that defiles a person, but it is what comes out of the mouth that defiles.” <sup>12</sup>

Then the disciples approached and said to him, “Do you know that the Pharisees took offense when they heard what you said?”

<sup>13</sup> Jesus answered, “Every plant that my heavenly Father has not planted will be uprooted. <sup>14</sup> Let them alone; they are blind guides of the blind. And if one blind person guides another, both will fall into a pit.” <sup>15</sup> But Peter said to him, “Explain this parable to us.” <sup>16</sup>

Then Jesus said, “Are you also still without understanding? <sup>17</sup> Do you not see that whatever goes into the mouth enters the stomach, and goes out into the sewer? <sup>18</sup> But what comes out of the mouth proceeds from the heart, and this is what defiles. <sup>19</sup> For out of the heart come evil intentions, murder, adultery, fornication, theft, false witness, slander. <sup>20</sup> These are what defile a person, but to eat with unwashed hands does not defile.” (cont’d)

<sup>21</sup> Jesus left that place and went away to the district of Tyre and Sidon. <sup>22</sup> Just then a Canaanite woman from that region came out and started shouting, "Have mercy on me, Lord, Son of David; my daughter is tormented by a demon." <sup>23</sup> But he did not answer her at all. And his disciples came and urged him, saying, "Send her away, for she keeps shouting after us." <sup>24</sup> Jesus answered, "I was sent only to the lost sheep of the house of Israel." <sup>25</sup> But she came and knelt before him, saying, "Lord, help me." <sup>26</sup> Jesus answered, "It is not fair to take the children's food and throw it to the dogs." <sup>27</sup> She said, "Yes, Lord, yet even the dogs eat the crumbs that fall from their masters' table." <sup>28</sup> Then Jesus answered her, "Woman, great is your faith! Let it be done for you as you wish." And her daughter was healed instantly.

The Gospel of the Lord.

**☐ Praise to you , O Christ.**

*Sit for Sermon*

*Stand for Hymn of the Day*

# Healer of Our Every Ill

*Refrain*



Heal - er of our ev - 'ry ill, light of each to - mor - row,



give us peace be - yond our fear, and hope be - yond our sor - row.



- 1 You who know our fears and sad - ness, grace us with your
- 2 In the pain and joy be - hold - ing how your grace is
- 3 Give us strength to love each oth - er, ev - 'ry sis - ter,
- 4 You who know each thought and feel - ing, teach us all your

*Refrain*



peace and glad-ness; Spir-it of all com-fort, fill our hearts.  
 still un-fold-ing, give us all your vi-sion, God of love.  
 ev - 'ry broth-er; Spir-it of all kind-ness, be our guide.  
 way of heal-ing; Spir-it of com-pas-sion, fill each heart.

Text: Marty Haugen, b. 1950

Music: HEALER OF OUR EVERY ILL, Marty Haugen

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## **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.**

## **THE PRAYERS**

**☐ Merciful God,  
☑ receive our prayers.**

## **PEACE**

**☐ The peace of Christ be with you always.  
☑ And also with you.**

# Let the Vineyards Be Fruitful

## *Offering Song*



Let the vine-yards be fruit-ful, Lord, and fill to the brim our cup of



bles-ing. Gath-er a har-vest from the seeds that were sown, that



we may be fed with the bread of life. Gath-er the hopes and dreams of



all; u-nite them with the prayers we of-fer. Grace our ta-ble



with your pres-ence, and give us a fore-taste of the feast to come.

Text: John W. Arthur, 1922-1980

Music: Ronald A. Nelson, b. 1927

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## OFFERING PRAYER

- P** Loving God,  
we offer at your table the gifts of our hearts.  
Help us take heart in you and share freely of your love,  
so that all creation can taste your abundance.  
We ask this in the name of Jesus,  
through the Spirit abiding with us now and forever.
- C** Amen.

## DIALOGUE



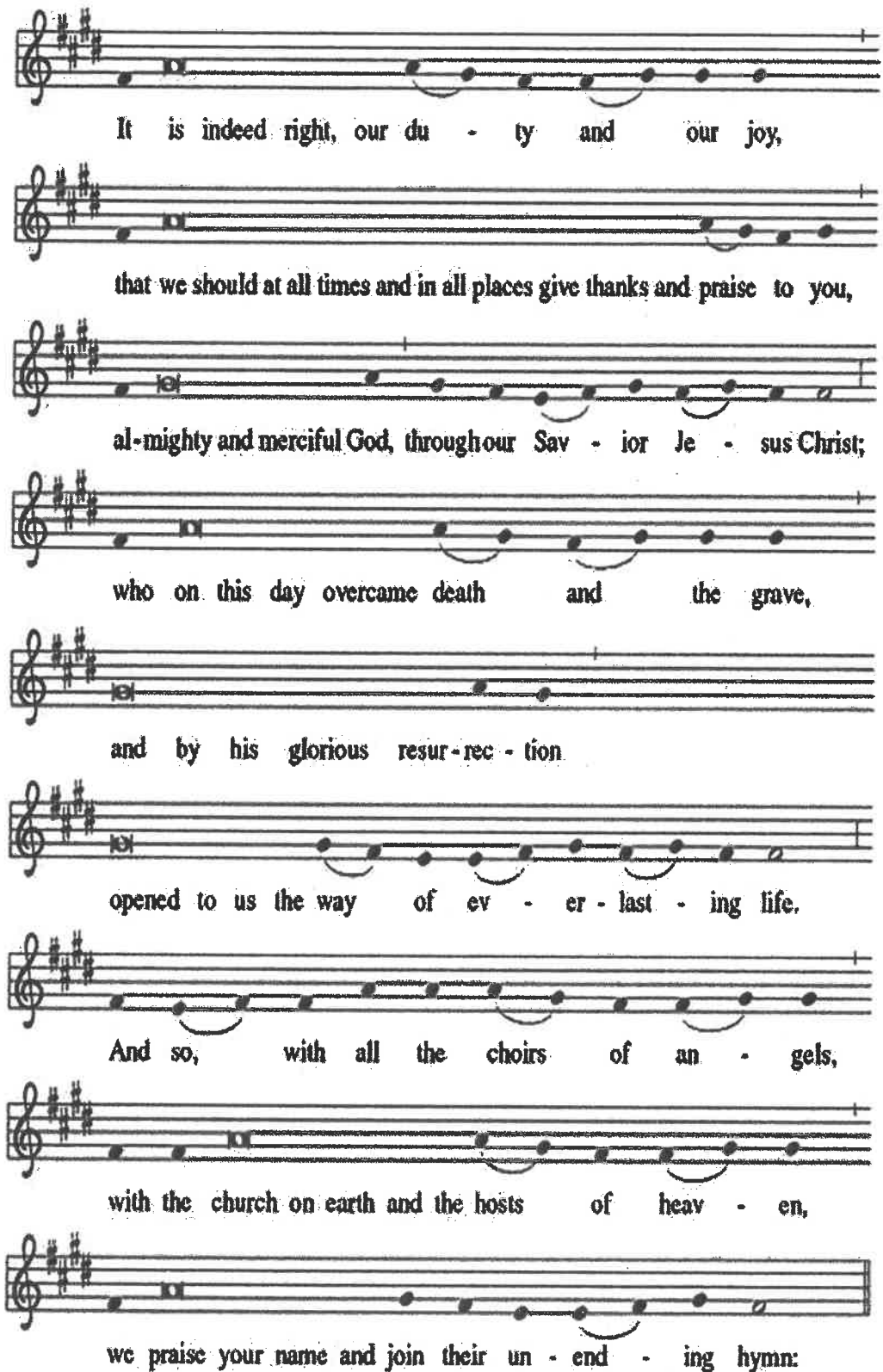
The Lord be with you. And al - so with you.

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.

## PREFACE PASTOR ONLY



It is indeed right, our du - ty and our joy,  
that we should at all times and in all places give thanks and praise to you,  
al-mighty and merciful God, through our Sav - ior Je - sus Christ;  
who on this day overcame death and the grave,  
and by his glorious resur-rec - tion  
opened to us the way of ev - er - last - ing life.  
And so, with all the choirs of an - gels,  
with the church on earth and the hosts of heav - en,  
we praise your name and join their un - end - ing hymn:

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## HOLY HOLY



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.

## THANKSGIVING AT THE TABLE

Blessed are you, Lord of heaven and earth.

In mercy for our fallen world you gave your only Son,  
that all those who believe in him should not perish,  
but have eternal life.

We give thanks to you  
for the salvation you have prepared for us through Jesus  
Christ.

Send now your Holy Spirit into our hearts,  
that we may receive our Lord with a living faith  
as he comes to us in his holy supper.

**Amen. Come, Lord Jesus.**

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.

## LORD'S PRAYER

Gathered into one by the Holy Spirit, let us pray as Jesus taught  
us.

**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.**

## THE FRACTION

**P** When we eat this Bread and drink this Cup,  
we proclaim your Death, O Lord,  
until you come again.

**C** Save us, Savior of the world,  
for by your Cross and Resurrection  
you have set us free.

## INVITATION TO COMMUNION

Heaven has come near.  
Come, share in the feast!



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.

# One Bread, One Body

*Refrain*



One bread, one bod-y, one Lord of all; one cup of



bless-ing which we bless, and we, though man-y



through-out the earth, we are one bod - y in this one Lord.



1 Gen - tile or Jew, ser - vant or free,  
 2 Man - y the gifts, man - y the works,  
 3 Grain for the fields, scat-tered and grown,



*Refrain*

wom - an or man, no more.  
 one in the Lord of all.  
 gath - ered to one for all.

Text: John Foley, SJ, b. 1939

Music: ONE BREAD, ONE BODY, John Foley, SJ

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## POST COMMUNION DISMISSAL

**P** Now may the Body and Blood of our Lord Jesus Christ,  
strengthen you and keep you in His grace.

**C** Amen.

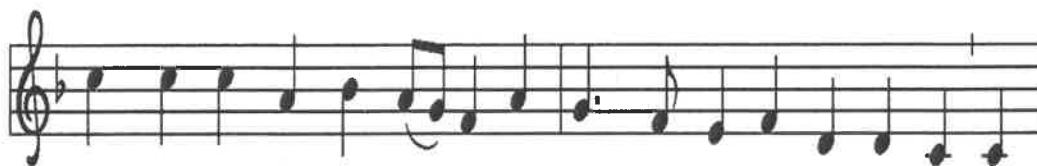
### Thankful Hearts and Voices Raise



Thank-ful hearts and voic-es raise; tell ev'-ry-one what God has done.



Let all who seek the Lord re-joice and bear Christ's ho-ly name.



Send us with your prom-is-es and lead your peo-ple forth in joy with



shouts of thanks-giv-ing, Al-le-lu-ia. Al-le-lu-ia.

Text: John W. Arthur, 1922-1980

Music: Richard W. Hillert, b. 1923

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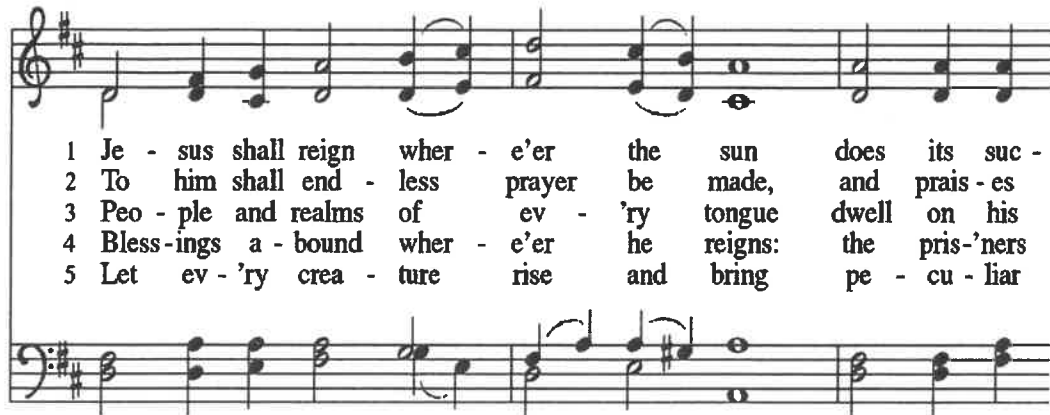
## PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

- P** Compassionate God,  
through the gifts of bread and wine  
our hearts are filled with the abundance of your love.  
Strengthen us that we, through this holy meal,  
may share your love freely, as you have shared with us.  
We ask this in the name of Jesus,  
through the Spirit nourishing us now and forever.
- C** Amen.

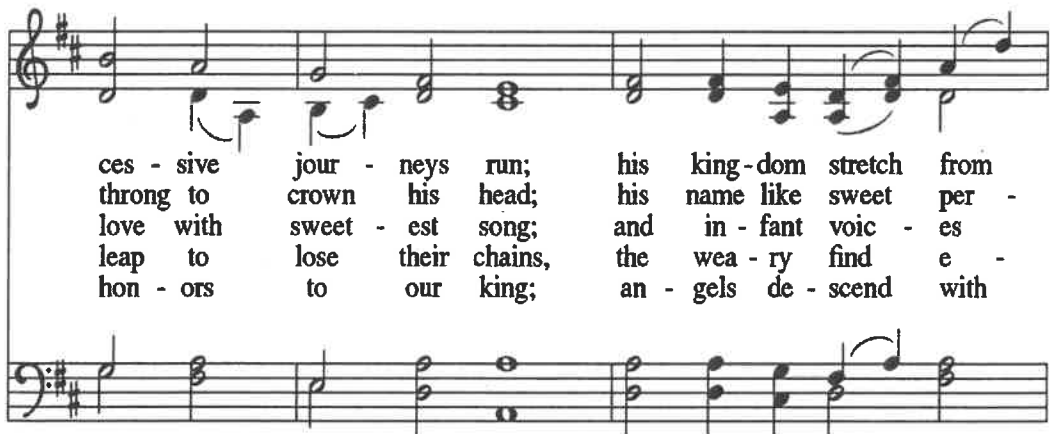
## BLESSING

- P** Creator, Redeemer, Sustainer,  
✠ one God,  
bless, heal, and hold you  
today and always.
- C** Amen.

## Jesus Shall Reign



1 Je - sus shall reign wher - e'er the sun does its suc -  
 2 To him shall end - less prayer be made, and prais - es  
 3 Peo - ple and realms of ev - 'ry tongue dwell on his  
 4 Bless - ings a - bound wher - e'er he reigns: the pris - 'ners  
 5 Let ev - 'ry crea - ture rise and bring pe - cu - liar



ces - sive jour - neys run; his king - dom stretch from  
 thron'g to crown his head; his name like sweet per -  
 love with sweet - est song; and in - fant voic - es  
 leap to lose their chains, the wea - ry find e -  
 hon - ors to our king; an - gels de - scend with



shore to shore, till moons shall wax and wane no more.  
 fume shall rise with ev - 'ry morn - ing sac - ri - fice.  
 shall pro - claim their ear - ly bless - ings on his name.  
 ter - nal rest, and all who suf - fer want are blest.  
 songs a - gain, and earth re - peat the loud a - men.

Text: Isaac Watts, 1674-1748, alt.  
 Music: DUKE STREET, attr. John Hatton, d. 1793

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## DISMISSAL

- ☐ Heaven has come near. Go, share the good news!  
☑ **Thanks be to God.**

*DEAR FRIENDS & MEMBERS, In an effort to have our prayer list as current and as accurate as possible, please indicate whether or not you would like to have a name continue to be included. Thank you!*

\*Eric Alber\* Jerry Avery\* Michelle Bahlavooni\* Derl Crawford \*David Ferro\* Carl Frank \*\*Adam Gajkowski \* Jerry Hess\* Jim Hess \*Arthur Johnson\* Jo Ann Johnson \* Marlene Karchner \* \*Dave Madara \* Joyce McCarty\* Vinnie Moroney\* Steve Novak\* Henry Reinsburrow \*Sheri Renner\* Ray & Sandy Sterner\* Tom Termini\* Mark Troup \*Marlene Trotman\* Ron Utt\* Melissa Waltman\* Pastor Daniel Warntz\* \*Sadie Whitmoyer\* Ron Wolfe \* Family and friends Tim Moyer Jr

### **THIS SUNDAY: AUGUST 16, 2026**

Outdoor Greeters : David & Karen Bird  
Greeters & Ushers: Carolyn Bahlavooni & Paul Zajac  
Lector: Julie Adams  
Communion Assistant: Cindy Powlus  
Altar Guild: Diane Young & Cindy Powlus  
Offering Counters: Paul Zajac & Dan Comstock  
Choir Director & Organist: Tenette Bogert

### **NEXT SUNDAY: AUGUST 23, 2026**

Outdoor Greeters : Bill Hower Jr & Carolyn Bahlavooni  
Greeters & Ushers: Nate Johnson & Emily Johnson  
Lector: Paul Zajac  
Communion Assistant: David Ferro  
Altar Guild: Carolyn Bahlavooni & Vinniedee Hippensteel  
Offering Counters: Emily Johnson & David Johnson  
Choir Director & Organist: Tenette Bogert

## WELCOME TO WORSHIP

Chancel Flowers are given to the Glory of God  
by Linda Chapin  
in loving memory of loved ones

Our Sanctuary Lamp this week burns to the Glory of God  
by Linda Chapin  
in loving memory of loved ones

## ANNOUNCEMENTS

### WELCOME TABLE

Upcoming meals will be held on September 12th & October 10th from 10:30am – Noon.

Sign-up sheets for The Welcome Table are in the rear of the sanctuary, or you can call **Lydia (570-204-2516)** to volunteer.

**Please Note:** Drop off times for donations **will be announced on Sunday mornings.** Other drop off times will be during regular office hours and Saturday, the morning of after 9:00 AM for other times please contact Lydia.

### COUNCIL MEETS

Council will meet on **Tuesday, August 18th at 7:00 PM.**

### **SHOE COLLECTION**

The Boy Scouts will be collecting new and gently used shoes during the **month of August** as a fundraising project. There will be a box provided in the rear of the sanctuary.

### **BLOOD DRIVE**

Our next Blood Drive will take place on **Monday, August 17th from 1:00 PM to 6:00 PM**. If you haven't already signed up, please do so. Also, ask others you may know to join you.

### **SENIOR LUNCHEON**

Our next Senior Luncheon will take place on **Wednesday, August 19th at 12:00 PM at Morris Restaurant**. Please contact Jan Peifer by **Tuesday, August 18th** if you plan to attend. She can be reached at **570-204-7531**.

# ST. JOHN'S EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH

*Twelfth Sunday after Pentecost*

*Sunday, August 16, 2026*

Eucharist: 9:00 AM

## **ST. JOHN'S CALENDAR**

***Monday, Aug 17, 2026***

***Office Hours***

***9:00 AM to 12:00 PM***

***Blood Drive***

***1:00 PM to 6:00 PM***

***Tuesday, Aug 18, 2026***

***Office Hours***

***9:00 AM to 12:00 PM***

***Council Meeting***

***7:00 PM***

***Wednesday, Aug 19, 2026***

***Office Hours***

***9:00 AM to 12:00 PM***

***Senior Luncheon***

***12:00 PM***

***Thursday, Aug 20, 2026***

***Office Hours***

***9:00 AM to 12:00 PM***

***Friday August 21, 2026***

***Office Closed***

***Saturday, Aug 22, 2026***

***Office closed***

***Sunday, Aug 23, 2026***

***Thirteenth Sunday after  
Pentecost***

## **CONTACT PERSONS:**

**Don Bogert, Council President:**

**Email:** bogertcontract@epix.net

**Phone:** 570-441-3449

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**Tina Baucher, Council**

**Vice-President:**

**Email:** t-baucher@hotmail.com

**Phone:** 570-441-5245

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**Dave Ferro, Council Secretary:**

**Email:** jdavidferro@gmail.com

**Phone:** 570-204-3616

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**Wendy Zajac, Treasurer:**

**Email:** wzajac61@gmail.com

**Phone:** 570-336-7023

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**Pastor: Reverend Daniel Warntz**

**Email:** theorgandude30@gmail.com

**Phone:** 570-752-2289 (office)

**Cell:** 814-360-4602

**Last Sunday Attendance : 32**

**Offering Amount Needed Weekly:**

**Current: \$2,878.00**

**Benevolence: \$135.00**

**New Building: \$401.00**

**Offering Amounts Received:**

**Current: \$ 1,577.00**

**Benevolence: \$132.00**

**New Building: \$ 97.00**

**St. John's Website: [www.stjohnslutheranmifflinville.com](http://www.stjohnslutheranmifflinville.com)**

**Join St. John's Lutheran Church, Mifflinville, PA**