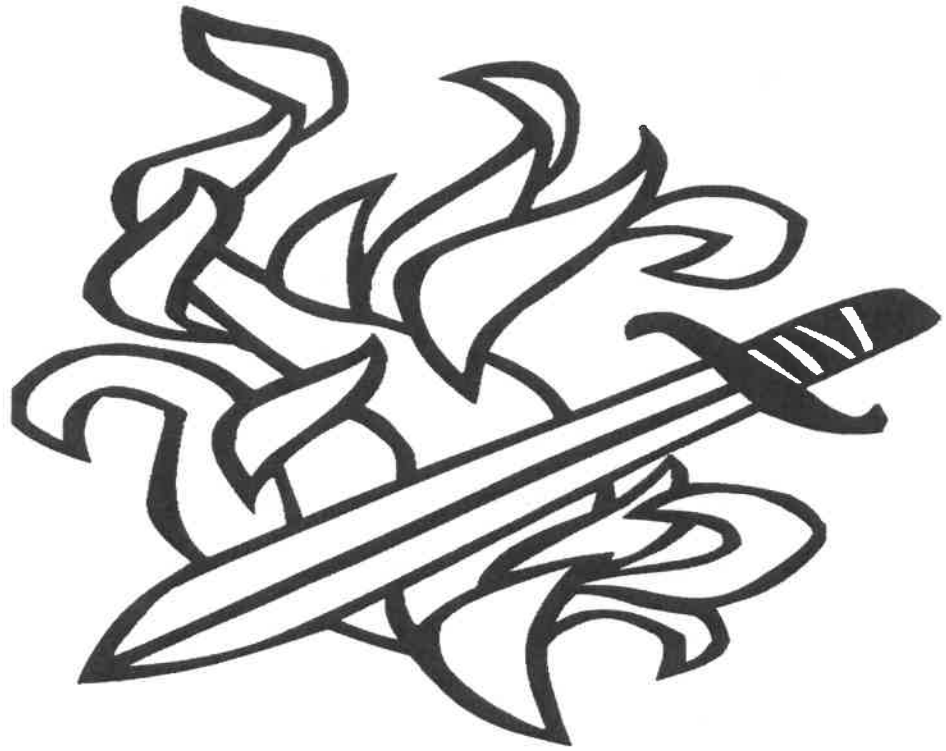


***Welcome to***  
**St. John's Lutheran Church**



Tenth Sunday after Pentecost

Holy Communion

August 17, 2025

*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

Tenth Sunday after Pentecost  
Holy Communion  
August 17, 2025  
*God's Work/Our Hands*

PRELUDE

WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

*Stand*

**[P]** Returning again to the waters of our baptism we begin in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit. Let us confess our sin before God and in the presence of one another.

*Silence for reflection and self-examination*

**[P]** Gracious and merciful God.

**[C]** We confess to you the truth of our broken lives.

**We have not trusted your promises or walked in your ways.**

**We have hoarded and squandered the gifts of your creation.**

**We have failed to welcome the stranger and the outcast,  
and to make room at the table for the homeless and the  
hungry.**

**We have neither worked to release the oppressed, nor  
admitted our own captivities.**

**Forgive our sin, heal our lives and set us free, that we might  
live with your whole creation, in the justice and joy of your  
promised future. Amen.**

**[P]** God, who is merciful and kind, slow to anger and abounding in steadfast love, hears the cries of all who plead for mercy.

And in this last day, has set Christ Jesus to announce the good news of forgiveness and release to all who are bound by guilt or broken by shame that they might praise God and serve the world with glad and generous hearts.

**[P]** For freedom, Christ has set you free.

**[C]** Thanks be to God.

ENRANCE HYMN Tree of Life pages 1 & 2

GREETING Tree of Life page 2

CANTICLE Tree of Life page 4

PRAYER OF THE DAY

☞ Let us pray.

O God, judge eternal, you love justice and hate oppression, and you call us to share your zeal for truth. Give us courage to take our stand with all victims of bloodshed and greed, and, following your servants and prophets, to look to the pioneer and perfecter of our faith, your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

☞ Amen.

FIRST READING: Jeremiah 23:23-29

A reading from Jeremiah.

*Because Jeremiah preaches the unpopular message of God's judgment, he suffers rejection. Today's reading distinguishes between the true prophet, like Jeremiah, who speaks God's word, and the false prophet who misleads the people through dreams. One is like wheat; the other like worthless straw.*

<sup>23</sup> Am I a God near by, says the LORD, and not a God far off? <sup>24</sup> Who can hide in secret places so that I cannot see them? says the LORD. Do I not fill heaven and earth? says the LORD. <sup>25</sup> I have heard what the prophets have said who prophesy lies in my name, saying, "I have dreamed, I have dreamed!" <sup>26</sup> How long? Will the hearts of the prophets ever turn back—those who prophesy lies, and who prophesy the deceit of their own heart? <sup>27</sup> They plan to make my people forget my name by their dreams that they tell one another, just as their ancestors forgot my name for Baal. <sup>28</sup> Let the prophet who has a dream tell the dream, but let the one who has my word speak my word faithfully. What has straw in common with wheat? says the LORD. <sup>29</sup> Is not my word like fire, says the LORD, and like a hammer that breaks a rock in pieces?

The word of the Lord.

☞ Thanks be to God.

PSALM: Psalm 82

- <sup>1</sup> God stands to charge the divine council assembled,  
giving judgment in the midst of the gods:  
<sup>2</sup> **“How long will you judge unjustly,  
and show favor to the wicked?”**  
<sup>3</sup> Save the weak and the orphan;  
defend the humble and needy;  
<sup>4</sup> **rescue the weak and the poor;  
deliver them from the power of the wicked.**  
<sup>5</sup> They do not know, neither do they understand; they wander  
about in darkness;  
all the foundations of the earth are shaken.  
<sup>6</sup> **Now I say to you, ‘You are gods,  
and all of you children of the Most High;**  
<sup>7</sup> nevertheless, you shall die like mortals,  
and fall like any prince.’ ”  
<sup>8</sup> **Arise, O God, and rule the earth,  
for you shall take all nations for your own.**

SECOND READING: Hebrews 11:29—12:2

A reading from Hebrews.

*The author of Hebrews presents us with rich stories of faith. In a long list of biblical heroes, we find examples of trust in God that enabled them to face the trials of life faithfully. In addition to this “cloud of witnesses,” we have Jesus, the perfect model of faithful endurance.*

<sup>29</sup> By faith the people passed through the Red Sea as if it were dry land, but when the Egyptians attempted to do so they were drowned. <sup>30</sup> By faith the walls of Jericho fell after they had been encircled for seven days. <sup>31</sup> By faith Rahab the prostitute did not perish with those who were disobedient, because she had received the spies in peace.

<sup>32</sup> And what more should I say? For time would fail me to tell of Gideon, Barak, Samson, Jephthah, of David and Samuel and the prophets—<sup>33</sup> who through faith conquered realms, administered justice, obtained promises, shut the mouths of lions, <sup>34</sup> quenched raging fire, escaped the edge of the sword, won strength out of weakness, became mighty in war, put foreign armies to flight.

(cont'd)

<sup>35</sup> Women received their dead by resurrection. Others were tortured, refusing to accept release, in order to obtain a better resurrection. <sup>36</sup> Others suffered mocking and flogging, and even chains and imprisonment. <sup>37</sup> They were stoned to death, they were sawn in two, they were killed by the sword; they went about in skins of sheep and goats, destitute, persecuted, tormented—<sup>38</sup> of whom the world was not worthy. They wandered in deserts and mountains, and in caves and holes in the ground.

<sup>39</sup> Yet all these, though they were commended for their faith, did not receive what was promised, <sup>40</sup> since God had provided something better so that they would not, apart from us, be made perfect.

<sup>12:1</sup> Therefore, since we are surrounded by so great a cloud of witnesses, let us also lay aside every weight and the sin that clings so closely, and let us run with perseverance the race that is set before us, <sup>2</sup> looking to Jesus the pioneer and perfecter of our faith, who for the sake of the joy that was set before him endured the cross, disregarding its shame, and has taken his seat at the right hand of the throne of God.

The word of the Lord.

**☩ Thanks be to God.**

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION (Tree of Life page 6) *Stand*

GOSPEL: Luke 12:49-56

**☩** The holy gospel according to St. Luke, The twelfth chapter.

**☩ Glory to you, O Lord.**

[Jesus said:] <sup>49</sup> “I came to bring fire to the earth, and how I wish it were already kindled! <sup>50</sup> I have a baptism with which to be baptized, and what stress I am under until it is completed! <sup>51</sup> Do you think that I have come to bring peace to the earth? No, I tell you, but rather division! <sup>52</sup> From now on five in one household will be divided, three against two and two against three; <sup>53</sup> they will be divided:

father against son  
and son against father,  
mother against daughter  
and daughter against mother,  
and in-laws against one another.”

(cont'd)

<sup>54</sup> Jesus also said to the crowds, “When you see a cloud rising in the west, you immediately say, ‘It is going to rain’; and so it happens. <sup>55</sup> And when you see the south wind blowing, you say, ‘There will be scorching heat’; and it happens. <sup>56</sup> You hypocrites! You know how to interpret the appearance of earth and sky, but why do you not know how to interpret the present time?”

The Gospel of the Lord.

**☐ Praise to you, O Christ.**

*Sit for Sermon*

*Stand for Hymn of Day*

### How Firm a Foundation



1 How firm a foun - da - tion, O saints of the Lord,  
 2 “Fear not, I am with you, oh, be not dis - mayed,  
 3 “When through fi - 'ry tri - als your path - way shall lie,  
 4 “Through - out all their life - time my peo - ple shall prove



is laid for your faith in Christ Je - sus, the Word!  
 for I am your God and will still give you aid;  
 my grace, all - suf - fi - cient, shall be your sup - ply.  
 my sov - 'reign, e - ter - nal, un - change - a - ble love;



What more can he say than to you he has said  
 I'll strength - en you, help you, and cause you to stand,  
 The flames shall not hurt you; I on - ly de - sign  
 and then, when gray hairs shall their tem - ples a - dorn,



who un - to the Sav - ior for ref - uge have fled?  
 up - held by my righ - teous, om - nip - o - tent hand."  
 your dross to con - sume and your gold to re - fine."  
 like lambs they shall still in my bo - som be borne."

Text: J. Rippon, *A Selection of Hymns*, 1787, alt.  
 Music: FOUNDATION, Early American

Public Domain

## 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

- [P]** Hear us, O God.  
**[C]** Your mercy is great.

## PEACE

- [P]** The peace of Christ be with you always.  
**[C]** And also with you.

OFFERING (Tree of Life page 8)  
GREAT THANKSGIVING (Tree of Life page 9)  
LORD'S PRAYER &  
LAMB OF GOD ( Tree of Life page 12)

# COMMUNION HYMN

## We've Come This Far By Faith

*Refrain - All*

We've come this far by faith, lean-ing on the Lord;

trust-ing in his ho-ly word, he's nev-er failed us yet.

Oh, can't turn a-round, we've come this

far by faith. We've come this far by faith.

1 Just remember  
the good things God has done,  
things that seemed impossible;  
oh, praise him for the vict'ries he has won.

2 Don't be discouraged  
with trouble in your life;  
he'll bear your burdens,  
and move all the discord and strife.

Text: Albert A. Goodson, 1883-1947

Music: THIS FAR BY FAITH, Albert A. Goodson

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POST COMMUNION DISMISSAL (Tree of Life starting pg 13)  
 POST COMMUNION CANTICLE  
 POST COMMUNION PRAYER, BLESSING, DISMISS pg 14

# I Want to Walk as a Child of the Light



1 I want to walk as a child of the light. I want to  
 2 I want to see . . . the bright-ness of God. I want to  
 3 I'm look - ing for . . . the com - ing of Christ. I want to



fol - low Je - sus. God set the stars to give  
 look at Je - sus. Clear Sun of righ - teous-ness,  
 be with Je - sus. When we have run . . . with



light to the world. The star of my life is Je - sus.  
 shine on my path, and show me the way to the Fa - ther.  
 pa - tience the race, we shall know the joy of Je - sus.

## Refrain



In him there is no dark-ness at all. The night and the



day are both a - like. The Lamb is the light of the



cit - y of God. Shine in my heart, Lord Je - sus.

Text: Kathleen Thomerson, b. 1934  
 Music: HOUSTON, Kathleen Thomerson  
 Text and music © 1970, 1975 Celebration

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*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\* Michelle Bahlavooni \*Roland Baker Sr \* Derl Crawford\* Mike Deptula\* Diane Deptula \*Ralph Evans\* David Ferro\* Carl Frank \* Jennifer F. Adam Gajkowski \* AJ Gunther\* Jim Hess\* Scott Hollenbach \*Richard Huntington\* Joanne Johnson \* Marlene Karchner \* Dave Madara \* Vinnie Moroney\* Jan Peifer \* Henry Reinsburrow \* Sheri Renner\* \*Bonnie Swafford \* Mark Troup \* Marlene Trotman\* Melissa Waltman\* \*Kathy Whitesel\* Ron Wolfe\* \*Shirley Young\* \*Jim Zeart\* Family of Susan Rutchauskus\*

**THIS SUNDAY: AUGUST 17, 2025**

Outdoor Greeters : Lydia Ferro & Lance Miller  
Greeters & Ushers: Liz Shotwell & Cole or Clay Shotwell  
Lector: Julie Adams  
Communion Assistant: Cindy Powlus  
Altar Guild: Carolyn Bahlavooni & Gail Utt  
Offering Counters: Paul Zajac & Trystan Johnson  
Choir Director & Organist: Tenette Bogert

**NEXT SUNDAY: AUGUST 24, 2025**

Outdoor Greeters : Paul & Wendy Zajac  
Greeters & Ushers: Nate Johnson & Lance Miller  
Lector: Judy Ohl  
Communion Assistant: Loreen Comstock  
Altar Guild: Diane Young & Cindy Powlus  
Offering Counters: Ryan Young, Nate Johnson & Lance Miller  
Choir Director & Organist: Tenette Bogert

**FILL THE SHELVES**

**September 7th**

**GATHERING TIME**

**September 14th**

## **WELCOME TO WORSHIP**

Chancel Flowers are given to the Glory of God  
by Linda Chapin

In memory of loved ones

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

## **ANNOUNCEMENTS**

### **RAISE RIGHT**

**Orders due today or before 10:00 AM Monday.**

### **BLOOD DRIVE**

**Our next Blood Drive will take place on Monday, August 18th from 1:00 PM to 6:30 PM.**

### **COUNCIL MEETING**

**Tuesday, August 19th at 7:00 PM.**

### **SENIOR LUNCHEON**

**Our next Senior Luncheon will take place on Wednesday, August 20th, 12:00 PM. Please alert Jan Peifer if you plan to attend by Tuesday, August 19th. Her phone number is 570-204-7531.**

### **BACK PACK BLESSING**

**Our Back Pack Blessing will be on Sunday, August 24th.**

### **HOAGIE SALES**

**Orders due by Sunday, Sept 7th. Order sheets on table.**

### **WELCA MEETS**

**Wednesday, Sept 10th at 6:30 PM.**

### **BIBLE STUDY /CHOSEN**

**Thursday, Sept 11th, 1:00 PM and Chosen 2:00 PM.**

### **BELLS/CHOIR**

**Thursday Sept 11th Bells 6:00 PM CCHOIR 7:00 PM**

### **GRIEF SUPPORT**

**Grief Support will meet on Wednesday, September 17, 2025 at 7:00 PM.**

# ST. JOHN'S EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH

*Tenth Sunday after Pentecost*

*Sunday, August 17, 2025*

Eucharist: 9:00 AM

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

***Monday, Aug 18, 2025***

***Office Hours***

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

***Blood Drive***

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

***Tuesday, Aug 19, 2025***

***Office Hours-Pastor in***

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

***Council Meeting***

***7:00 PM***

***Wednesday, Aug 20, 2025***

***Office Hours***

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

***Senior Luncheon***

***12:00 PM***

***Thursday, Aug 21, 2025***

***Office Hours-Pastor in***

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

***Friday Aug 22, 2025***

***Office closed***

***Saturday, Aug 23, 2025***

***Office closed***

***Sunday, Aug 24, 2025***

***Eleventh Sunday after***

***Pentecost***

## **CONTACT PERSONS:**

**Angela Traugh, Council President:**

**Email:** atraugh1@yahoo.com

**Phone:** 570-441-3187

**Valerie Lynn, Council**

**Vice-President:**

**Email:** Vgross68@gmail.com

**Phone:** 570-441-3794

**Dave Ferro, Council Secretary:**

**Email:** jdavidferro@gmail.com

**Phone:** 570-204-3616

**Wendy Zajac, Treasurer:**

**Email:** wzajac61@gmail.com

**Phone:** 570-336-7023

**Pastor: Reverend Daniel Warntz**

**Email:** theorgandude30@gmail.com

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

**Cell:** 814-360-4602

**Last Sunday Attendance : 41**

**Offering Amount Needed Weekly:**

**Current: \$1,557.00**

**Benevolence: \$122.00**

**New Building: \$333.00**

**Offering Amounts Received:**

**Current: \$ 1,432.00**

**Benevolence: \$118.00**

**New Building: \$266.00**

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

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