

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



The Feast Day of St. Francis of Assisi
Holy Communion

October 4, 2026

God's Work/Our Hands

St. John's Lutheran Church
5th and Race Streets (PO Box B)
Mifflinville, PA 18631

570-752-2289

stjohnsmifflin@verizon.net

www.stjohnslutheranmifflinville.com

Rev. Daniel Warntz, pastor

The Feast Day of St. Francis of Assisi
Holy Communion
October 4, 2026
God's Work/Our Hands

PRELUDE

WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

P In the name of the Father,
and of the ✠ Son,
and of the Holy Spirit.

C Amen.

P Let us confess our sin in the presence of God and of one
another.
To you, O God,

C **all hearts are open, to you all desires known. We come to
you, confessing our sins. Forgive us in your mercy, and
remember us in your love. Show us your ways; teach us
your paths; and lead us in justice and truth, for the sake
of your goodness in Jesus Christ our Savior.
Amen.**

P By water and the Holy Spirit God gives you a new birth,
and through the death and resurrection of ✠ Jesus Christ,
God forgives you all your sins. The God of mercy and might
strengthen you in all goodness and keep you in eternal life.

C Amen.

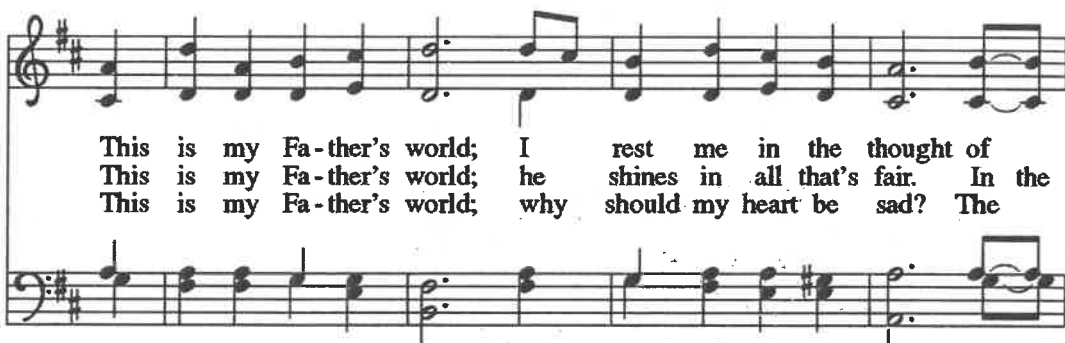
This Is My Father's World



1 This is my Fa-ther's world, and to my lis-t'ning ears all
 2 This is my Fa-ther's world; the birds their car-ols raise; the
 3 This is my Fa-ther's world; oh, let me not for-get that,



na-ture sings, and round me rings the mu-sic of the spheres.
 morn-ing light, the lil-y white, de-clare their mak-er's praise.
 though the wrong seems oft so strong, God is the rul-er yet.



This is my Fa-ther's world; I rest me in the thought of
 This is my Fa-ther's world; he shines in all that's fair. In the
 This is my Fa-ther's world; why should my heart be sad? The



rocks and trees, of skies and seas; his hand the won-ders wrought.
 rus-ling grass I hear him pass; he speaks to me ev-'ry-where.
 Lord is king, let heav-en ring; God reigns, let earth be glad!

Text: Maltbie D. Babcock, 1858-1901
 Music: TERRA PATRIS, Franklin L. Sheppard, 1852-1930, adapt.

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

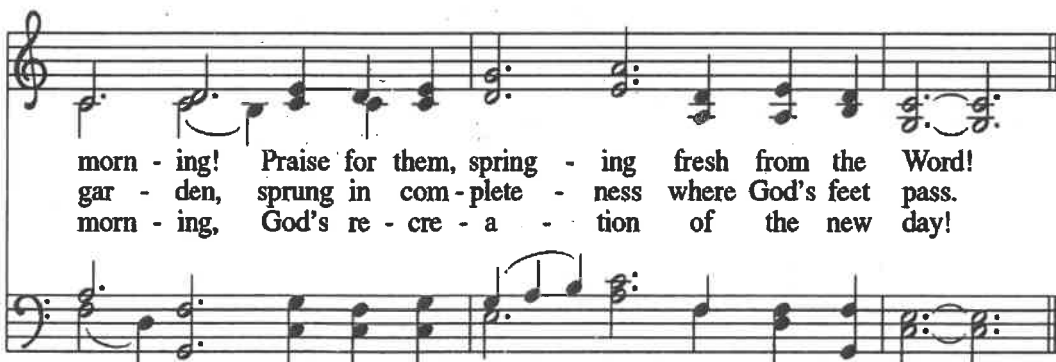
Morning Has Broken



1 Morn - ing has bro - ken like the first morn - ing; black - bird has
2 Sweet the rain's new fall, sun - lit from heav - en, like the first
3 Mine is the sun - light! Mine is the morn - ing, born of the



spo - ken like the first bird. Praise for the sing - ing! Praise for the
dew - fall on the first grass. Praise for the sweet - ness of the wet
one light E - den saw play! Praise with e - la - tion, praise ev - 'ry



morn - ing! Praise for them, spring - ing fresh from the Word!
gar - den, sprung in com - plete - ness where God's feet pass.
morn - ing, God's re - cre - a - tion of the new day!

Text: Eleanor Farjeon, 1881–1965

Music: BUNESSAN, Gaelic tune; arr. hymnal version

Text © Miss E. Farjeon Will Trust, by permission of David Higham Associates.

Arr. © 2006 Augsburg Fortress.

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PRAYER OF THE DAY

P Let us pray.

Beloved God, from you come all things that are good. Lead us by the inspiration of your Spirit to know those things that are right, and by your merciful guidance, help us to do them, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

C Amen.

FIRST READING: Isaiah 5:1-7

A reading from Isaiah.

The prophet sings a sad, parable-like love song about the relationship between God and Israel. In this song Israel is compared to a promising vineyard. Despite God's loving care, the vineyard that is Israel has brought forth "rotten grapes" of injustice and distress, when fine grapes of justice and righteousness were expected.

¹ Let me sing for my beloved
my love-song concerning my beloved's vineyard:

"My beloved had a vineyard
on a very fertile hill.

² My beloved dug it and cleared it of stones,
and planted it with choice vines;
built a watchtower in the midst of it,
and hewed out a wine vat in it,
and expected it to yield grapes,
but it yielded wild grapes."

³ And now, inhabitants of Jerusalem
and people of Judah,
judge between me
and my vineyard.

⁴ What more was there to do for my vineyard
that I have not done in it?
When I expected it to yield grapes,
why did it yield wild grapes?

⁵ And now I will tell you
what I will do to my vineyard.
I will remove its hedge,
and it shall be devoured;
I will break down its wall,
and it shall be trampled down.

(cont'd)

⁶ I will make it a waste;
it shall not be pruned or hoed,
and it shall be overgrown with briers and thorns;
I will also command the clouds
that they rain no rain upon it.

⁷ For the vineyard of the LORD of hosts
is the house of Israel,
and the people of Judah
are God's pleasant planting;
for the LORD expected justice,
but saw bloodshed;
righteousness,
but heard a cry!

Word of God, word of life.

☛ **Thanks be to God.**

PSALM: Psalm 80:7-15

Look down from heaven, O God; behold and tend this
vine. (*Ps. 80:14, 15*)

⁷ Restore us, O God of hosts;
let your face shine upon us, and we shall be saved.

⁸ **You have brought a vine out of Egypt;
you cast out the nations and planted it.**

⁹ You cleared the ground for it;
it took root and filled the land.

¹⁰ **The mountains were covered by its shadow
and the towering cedar trees by its boughs.**

¹¹ You stretched out its tendrils to the sea
and its branches to the river.

¹² **Why have you broken down its wall,
so that all who pass by pluck off its grapes?**

¹³ The wild boar of the forest has ravaged it,
and the beasts of the field have grazed upon it.

¹⁴ **Turn now, O God of hosts,
look down from heaven;**

¹⁵ behold and tend this vine;
preserve what your right hand has planted.

SECOND READING: Philippians 3:4b-14

A reading from Philippians.

Paul reviews some of his supposed credentials, which no longer have any bearing in comparison to the right relationship he has been given through the death of Christ. The power of Christ's resurrection motivates him to press on toward the ultimate goal, eternal life with Christ.

[Paul writes:] ^{4b} If anyone else has reason to be confident in the flesh, I have more: ⁵ circumcised on the eighth day, a member of the people of Israel, of the tribe of Benjamin, a Hebrew born of Hebrews; as to the law, a Pharisee; ⁶ as to zeal, a persecutor of the church; as to righteousness under the law, blameless.

⁷ Yet whatever gains I had, these I have come to regard as loss because of Christ. ⁸ More than that, I regard everything as loss because of the surpassing value of knowing Christ Jesus my Lord. For his sake I have suffered the loss of all things, and I regard them as rubbish, in order that I may gain Christ ⁹ and be found in him, not having a righteousness of my own that comes from the law, but one that comes through faith in Christ, the righteousness from God based on faith. ¹⁰ I want to know Christ and the power of his resurrection and the sharing of his sufferings by becoming like him in his death, ¹¹ if somehow I may attain the resurrection from the dead.

¹² Not that I have already obtained this or have already reached the goal but I press on to make it my own, because Christ Jesus has made me his own. ¹³ Beloved, I do not consider that I have made it my own; but this one thing I do: forgetting what lies behind and straining forward to what lies ahead, ¹⁴ I press on toward the goal for the prize of the heavenly call of God in Christ Jesus.

Word of God, word of life.

☩ Thanks be to God.

Stand for Gospel Acclamation



GOSPEL: Matthew 21:33-46

P The holy gospel according to St. Matthew, the twenty-first Chapter

G Glory to you, O Lord.

Jesus tells a parable to the religious leaders who are plotting his death, revealing that their plans will, ironically, bring about the fulfillment of scripture.

[Jesus said:] ³³“Listen to another parable. There was a landowner who planted a vineyard, put a fence around it, dug a wine press in it, and built a watchtower. Then he leased it to tenants and went to another country. ³⁴ When the harvest time had come, he sent his slaves to the tenants to collect his produce. ³⁵ But the tenants seized his slaves and beat one, killed another, and stoned another. ³⁶ Again he sent other slaves, more than the first; and they treated them in the same way. ³⁷ Finally he sent his son to them, saying, ‘They will respect my son.’ ³⁸ But when the tenants saw the son, they said to themselves, ‘This is the heir; come, let us kill him and get his inheritance.’ ³⁹ So they seized him, threw him out of the vineyard, and killed him. ⁴⁰ “Now when the owner of the vineyard comes, what will he do to those tenants?” ⁴¹ They said to Jesus, “The owner will put those wretches to a miserable death, and lease the vineyard to other tenants who will give him the produce at the harvest time.”

⁴² Jesus said to them, “Have you never read in the scriptures:
 ‘The stone that the builders rejected
 has become the cornerstone;
 this was the Lord’s doing,
 and it is amazing in our eyes’?

(cont’d)

⁴³ Therefore I tell you, the dominion of God will be taken away from you and given to a people that produces the fruits of it. ⁴⁴ The one who falls on this stone will be broken to pieces; and it will crush anyone on whom it falls."

⁴⁵ When the chief priests and the Pharisees heard his parables, they realized that he was speaking about them. ⁴⁶ They wanted to arrest him, but they feared the crowds, because the people regarded him as a prophet.

P The gospel of the Lord.

C Praise to you, O Christ.

Sit for Sermon

Stand for Hymn of the Day

All Things Bright and Beautiful

Refrain



All things bright and beau - ti - ful, all crea - tures great and small,



all things wise and won - der - ful, the Lord God made them all.



1 Each lit - tle flow'r that o - pens, each lit - tle bird that sings,
 2 The pur - ple-head - ed moun - tains, the riv - er run - ning by,
 3 The cold wind in the win - ter, the pleas - ant sum - mer sun,
 4 God gave us eyes to see them, and lips that we might tell

Refrain



God made their glow - ing col - ors, God made their ti - ny wings.
 the sun - set, and the morn - ing that bright - ens up the sky.
 the ripe fruits in the gar - den, God made them ev - 'ry one.
 how great is God Al - might - y, who has made all things well.

Text: Cecil F. Alexander, 1818–1895, alt.

Music: ROYAL OAK, English tune, 17th cent., adapt. Martin Shaw, 1875–1958

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

**☐ Hear us O God,
☑ your mercy is great.**

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 God of creation,
you send rain and the earth springs forth abundantly.
All blessings are from you;
make us generous with what we have.
Use our gifts, our abilities, and our hearts
in service to you and in love to our neighbors,
today and always.

C Amen.

DIALOGUE

The musical notation consists of four staves, each with a treble clef and a key signature of one sharp (F#), indicating the key of G major. The melody is simple and melodic, using eighth and quarter notes. The lyrics are written below the notes, with some words hyphenated across bar lines.

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.
By the witness of the saints you show us the hope of our call - ing,
and strengthen us to run the race set be - fore us,
that we may delight in your mer-cy, and re - joice with them in glo - ry.
And so, with (___ and) all the saints,
with the choirs of angels 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, Lord God of pow'r 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.

THANKSGIVING AT THE TABLE

Holy God,

our Bread of life, our Table, and our Food,
you created a world in which all might be satisfied by your
abundance.

You dined with Abraham and Sarah, promising them life,
and fed your people Israel with manna from heaven.

You sent your Son to eat with sinners
and to become food for the world.

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.

(cont'd)

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.
Remembering, therefore,
his life given for us
and his rising from the grave,
we await his coming again to share with us the everlasting
feast.
By your Spirit nurture and sustain us with this meal:
strengthen us to serve all in hunger and want,
and by this bread and cup make of us the body of your Son.
Through him all glory and honor is yours,
Almighty Father, with the Holy Spirit,
in your holy Church,
both now and forever.
Amen

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

Christ invites you to this table.

All who are thirsty, all who are hungry, come!

LAMB OF GOD



Lamb of God, you take a-way the sin of the world; have mer-cy on



us. Lamb of God, you take a-way the sin of the world; have

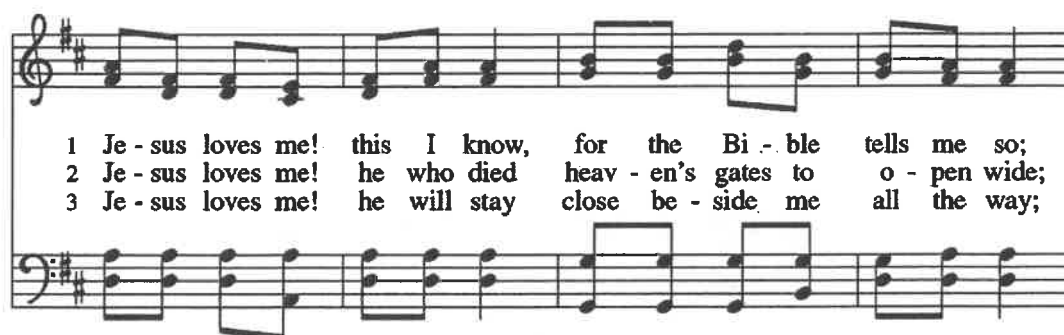


mer-cy on us. Lamb of God, you take a-way the

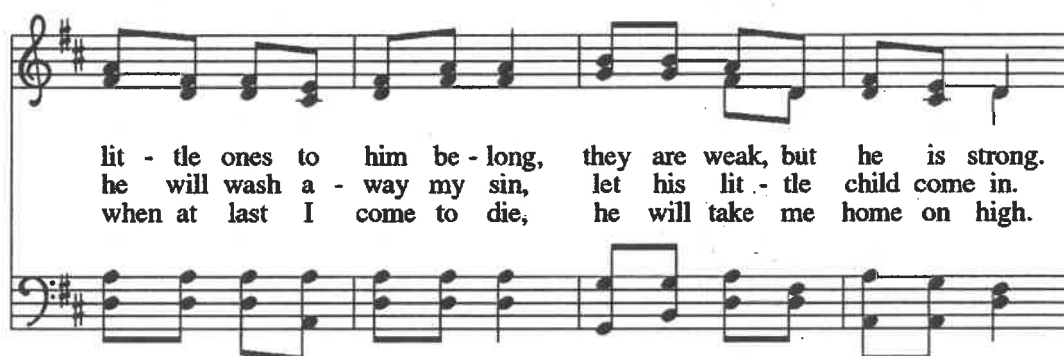


sin of the world; grant us peace, grant us peace.

Jesus Loves Me!



1 Je - sus loves me! this I know, for the Bi - ble tells me so;
 2 Je - sus loves me! he who died heav - en's gates to o - pen wide;
 3 Je - sus loves me! he will stay close be - side me all the way;

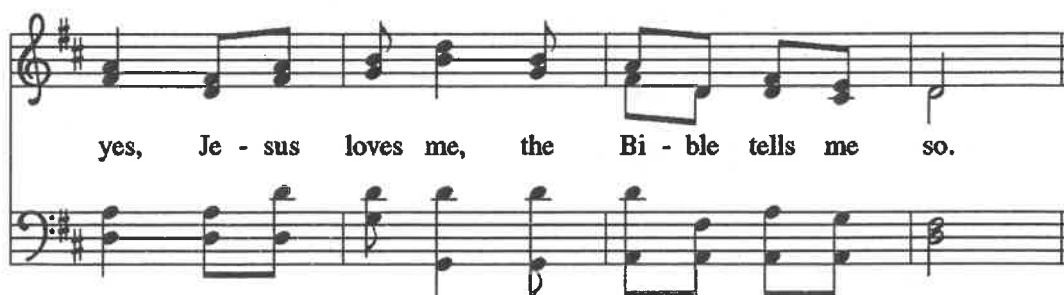


lit - tle ones to him be - long, they are weak, but he is strong.
 he will wash a - way my sin, let his lit - tle child come in.
 when at last I come to die, he will take me home on high.

Refrain



Yes, Je - sus loves me, yes, Je - sus loves me,



yes, Je - sus loves me, the Bi - ble tells me so.

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

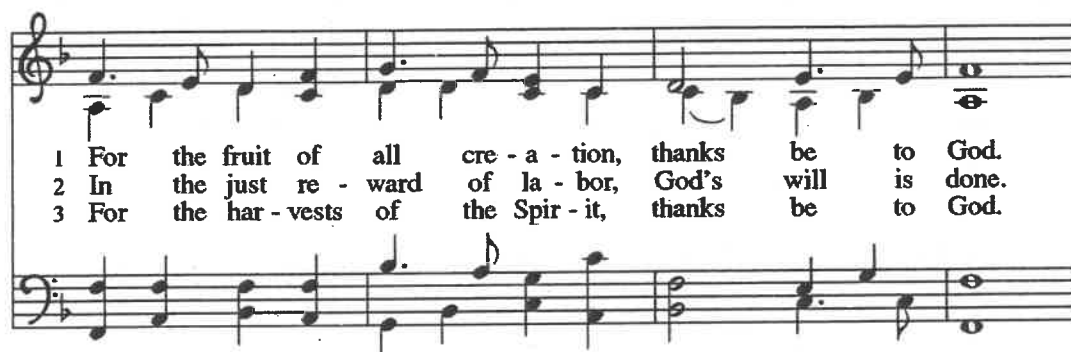
P Sustaining God,
with this bread and cup,
you nourish us with mercy and abundant life.
By your Spirit, send us from this table to serve a needy world.
Make us living signs of your liberation, healing, and love,
following the way of Jesus, in whose name we pray.

C Amen.

THE BLESSING OF ST. FRANCIS OF ASSISI

The Lord bless you and keep you.
May He show His face to you and have mercy.
May He turn His countenance to you and give you peace.
The Lord bless you!

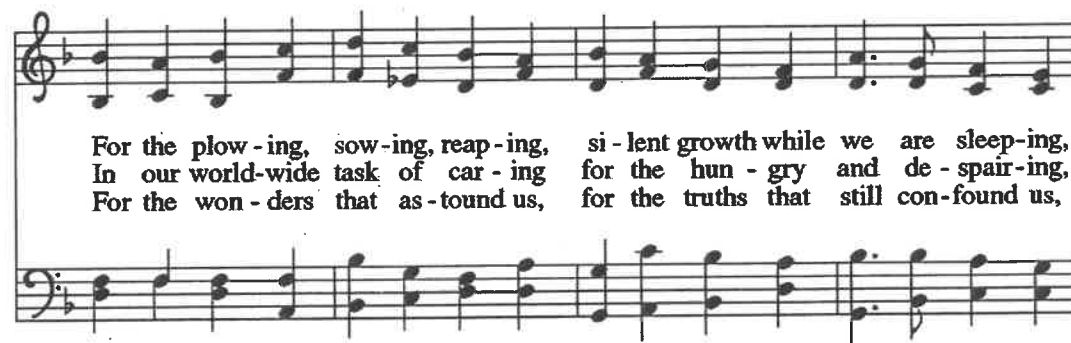
For the Fruit of All Creation



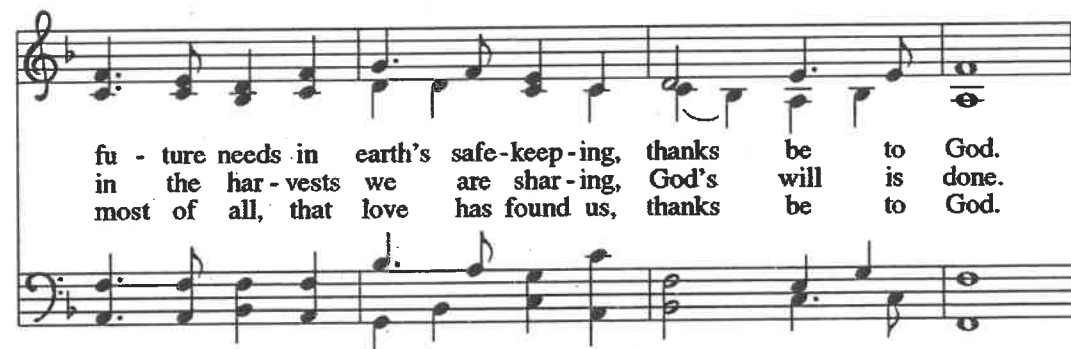
1 For the fruit of all cre - a - tion, thanks be to God.
 2 In the just re - ward of la - bor, God's will is done.
 3 For the har - vests of the Spir - it, thanks be to God.



For these gifts to ev - 'ry na - tion, thanks be to God.
 In the help we give our neigh - bor, God's will is done.
 For the good we all in - her - it, thanks be to God.



For the plow - ing, sow - ing, reap - ing, si - lent growth while we are sleep - ing,
 In our world - wide task of car - ing for the hun - gry and de - spair - ing,
 For the won - ders that as - tound us, for the truths that still con - found us,



fu - ture needs in earth's safe - keep - ing, thanks be to God.
 in the har - vests we are shar - ing, God's will is done.
 most of all, that love has found us, thanks be to God.

Text: Fred Pratt Green, 1903-2000

Music: AR HYD Y NOS, Welsh traditional; arr. Ralph Vaughan Williams, 1872-1958

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 Outside USA: Arr. from *The English Hymnal*, © Oxford University Press 1906.

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DISMISSAL

☐ Go out in joy. Be led forth in peace.

☑ 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 * Michelle Bahlavooni* Lori Bucci* Derl Crawford *David Ferro* Carl Frank **Adam Gajkowski * Jerry Hess* Jim Hess *Arthur Johnson* Jo Ann Johnson * Marlene Karchner * *Dave Madara * Vinnie Moroney* Steve Novak* Henry Reinsburrow *Sheri Renner* Ray & Sandy Sterner* Tom Termini* Mark Troup *Marlene Trotman* Melissa Waltman* Pastor Daniel Warntz* *Sadie Whitmoyer* Ron Wolfe *

THIS SUNDAY: OCTOBER 4, 2026

Outdoor Greeters : David & Karen Bird
Greeters & Ushers: Carolyn Bahlavooni & Emily Johnson
Lector: Diane Young
Communion Assistant: Diane Young
Altar Guild: Darlene Turner & Sharon Bachman
Offering Counters: Emily Johnson & Eva Moyer
Livestream Videographer: Eva Moyer
Choir Director & Organist: Tenette Bogert

NEXT SUNDAY: OCTOBER 11, 2026

Outdoor Greeters : Lydia Ferro & Bill Hower Jr
Greeters & Ushers: Carolyn Bahlavooni & Dan Comstock
Lector: David Ferro
Communion Assistant: David Ferro
Altar Guild: Carolyn Bahlavooni & Vinniedee Hippensteel
Offering Counters: David Ferro & Don Bogert
Livestream Videographer: Don Bogert
Choir Director & Organist: Tenette Bogert

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

CHIME & VOCAL CHOIR

Chime Choir & Vocal Choir will start on **Thursdays, at 3:00 PM and 4:00 PM respectively**. All are welcome to join. No experience is required. Fun is always had by all!

BIBLE/MOVIE STUDY

Bible study and movie time has resumed. We will be meeting **Thursdays, 1:00 PM and 2:00 PM respectively**.

BLANKET SUNDAY

Blanket Sunday sponsored by the Women of the ELCA and the Upper Susquehanna Synod will be observed today. Envelopes will be provided for monetary donations and can be placed in the collection. **Please make all checks payable to St. John's Lutheran Church**. Also, Thanks so much for your donations to the shoe collection.

BLESSING OF PETS

The Blessing of Pets will take place on **today at 2:00 PM at the Pavillion** across the street from the church. All pets must be leashed or crated and a short service with the blessing will be observed.

FUNDRAISING COMMITTEE

We are hoping to form a new **Fundraising Committee** to come up with new ideas on how we can raise money toward our various projects. If you are interested in joining and want to share ideas, please **contact Don Bogert or Janet Gibney, our Council Representative**.

BLOOD DRIVE

Our next Blood Drive will take place on **Wednesday, October 14th from 1:00 PM to 6:00 PM**. Please sign up to donate and invite your friends as well.

RAISE RIGHT

With the holidays coming, **beginning in October** we will be ordering on the **2nd and 4th Sundays** of the month. Make your holiday shopping easier while helping St. John's! First order will be due **October 11th**.

CALENDARS FOR CCVIM

This is the time of the year that people (organizations) send free calendars for next year. If you have no need for those that you receive, please bring them with your food donations for CCVIM. They would be happy to receive them.

GRIEF SUPPORT

The Grief Support Group will meet on **Wednesday, October 21st at 7:00 PM**. Anyone who has experienced grief due to the recent or past death of a loved one is welcome to attend. This is an informal group whose purpose is to talk about any issues group members may be experiencing related to loss. Refreshments will be served.

WELCA

Our WELCA meeting will be on **Wednesday, October 21st at 6:00 PM**.

CHICKEN & WAFFLES

Our Fall Chicken & Waffle will take place on **Saturday, November 7th from 4:00 PM to 6:30 PM**. Prices remain \$14.00 for adults, \$7.00 for children 6 to 12 yrs, and under 6 yrs free.

Sign up sheets on the table in the sanctuary.

ST. JOHN'S EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH

The Feast Day of St. Francis of Assisi

Sunday, October 4, 2026

Eucharist: 9:00 AM

ST. JOHN'S CALENDAR

Monday, Oct 5, 2026

Office Hours

9:00 AM to 12:00 PM

Tuesday, Oct 6, 2026

Office Hours

9:00 AM to 12:00 PM

Wednesday, Oct 7, 2026

Office Hours

9:00 AM to 12:00 PM

Thursday, Oct 8, 2026

Office Hours

9:00 AM to 12:00 PM

Friday Oct 9, 2026

Office Closed

Saturday, Oct 10, 2026

Office closed

Welcome Table

10:30 AM to 12:00 PM

Sunday, Oct 11, 2026

Twentieth Sunday after

Pentecost

Gathering Time

CONTACT PERSONS:

Don Bogert, Council President:

Email: bogertcontract@epix.net

Phone: 570-441-3449

Tina Baucher, Council

Vice-President:

Email: t-baucher@hotmail.com

Phone: 570-441-5245

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 : 51

Offering Amount Needed Weekly:

Current: \$2,878.00

Benevolence: \$135.00

New Building: \$401.00

Offering Amounts Received:

Current: \$ 1,434.00

Benevolence: \$144.00

New Building: \$ 207.00

St. John's Website: www.stjohnslutheranmifflinville.com

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