

Twenty-First Sunday After Pentecost

October 18, 2026

9 am



Saint John Lutheran Church

Fairfield, Pennsylvania

Rev. Wayne Gallipo, Interim Pastor

Assisting Ministers, Linn Wichowski/Julie Falk

Carol Garman, Organist/ Music Director

**St. John Lutheran Church
13 East Main St.
Fairfield Pa 17320
717-642-5822**

Reverend Wayne Gallipo, Interim Pastor
Cell: 605-214-6828
Pastor's Office Hours – Mon. & Tues. 8:30am – 4:30pm

Assisting Ministers – Linn Wichowski/Julie Falk

Carol Garman, Director of Music Ministries

www.stjohnfairfield.net
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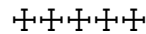
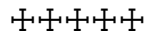
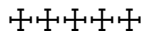
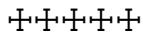
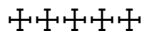
Office Hours
Monday – Thursday 8:30am-12:00pm

Our Mission is to make Christ known.

We welcome all guests this morning.
We are very pleased to have you worship with us!
All are welcome to receive communion.

Sunday School for all ages 10:15-11:15. Everyone is welcome!
Grab some refreshments and join us!

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WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

PRELUDE Excursion in Praise (Young)

Hand Bells

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

P: In the name of Almighty God, the Father, and of the ✝ Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

Amen.

P: Almighty God, to whom all hearts are open, all desires known, and from whom no secrets are hid: Cleanse the thoughts of our hearts by the inspiration of your Holy Spirit, that we may perfectly love you and worthily magnify your holy name, through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen**

If we say we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us. But if we confess our sins, God who is faithful and just will forgive our sins and cleanse us from all unrighteousness.

Silence for reflection and self-examination.

P: Most merciful God,

C: We confess that we are in bondage 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: Almighty God, in his mercy, has given his Son to die for us and, for his sake, forgives us all our sins. 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. **Amen**

GATHERING HYMN Holy, Holy, Holy, Lord God Almighty

ELW 413

INVOCATION

P: May 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.

PRAYER OF THE DAY

P: The Lord be with you. **And also with you.**

P: Sovereign God, raise your throne in our hearts. Created by you, let us live in your image; created for you, let us act for your glory; redeemed by you, let us give you what is yours, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. **Amen.**

For the Beauty of the Earth (Kocher/McChesney)**Hand Bells****FIRST READING****Isaiah 45:1-7**

- ¹ Thus says the LORD to his anointed, to Cyrus, whose right hand I have grasped to subdue nations before him and to strip kings of their robes, to open doors before him—and the gates shall not be closed:
- ² I will go before you and level the mountains; I will break in pieces the doors of bronze and cut through the bars of iron;
- ³ I will give you the treasures of darkness and riches hidden in secret places, so that you may know that it is I, the LORD, the God of Israel, who call you by your name.
- ⁴ For the sake of my servant Jacob and Israel my chosen, I call you by your name; I give you a title, though you do not know me.
- ⁵ I am the LORD, and there is no other; besides me there is no god. I arm you, though you do not know me,
- ⁶ So that they may know, from the rising of the sun and from the west, that there is no one besides me; I am the LORD, and there is no other.
- ⁷ I form light and create darkness, I make weal and create woe; I, the LORD, do all these things. *The Word of the Lord...Thanks Be to God.*

PSALM 96:1-13 (Read Responsively)

- ¹ Sing to the LORD a new song; sing to the LORD, all the earth.
- ² **Sing to the LORD, bless the name of the LORD; proclaim God's salvation from day to day.**
- ³ Declare God's glory among the nations and God's wonders among all peoples.
- ⁴ **For great is the LORD and greatly to be praised, more to be feared than all gods.**
- ⁵ As for all the gods of the nations, they are but idols; but you, O LORD, have made the heavens.
- ⁶ **Majesty and magnificence are in your presence; power and splendor are in your sanctuary.**
- ⁷ Ascribe to the LORD, you families of the peoples, ascribe to the LORD honor and power.
- ⁸ **Ascribe to the LORD the honor due the holy name; bring offerings and enter the courts of the Lord.**

- ⁹ Worship the LORD in the beauty of holiness; tremble before the LORD, all the earth.
- ¹⁰ **Tell it out among the nations: “The LORD is king! The one who made the world so firm that it cannot be moved, will judge the peoples with equity.”**
- ¹¹ Let the heavens rejoice, and let the earth be glad; let the sea thunder and all that is in it; let the field be joyful and all that is therein.
- ¹² **Then shall all the trees of the wood shout for joy at your coming, O LORD, for you come to judge the earth.**
- ¹³ You will judge the world with righteousness and the peoples with your truth.

SECOND READING

1 Thessalonians 1:1-10

¹ Paul, Silvanus, and Timothy: To the church of the Thessalonians in God the Father and the Lord Jesus Christ: Grace to you and peace.

² We always give thanks to God for all of you and mention you in our prayers, constantly

³ remembering before our God and Father your work of faith and labor of love and steadfastness of hope in our Lord Jesus Christ. ⁴ For we know, brothers and sisters beloved by God, that he has chosen you, ⁵ because our message of the gospel came to you not in word only but also in power and in the Holy Spirit and with full conviction; just as you know what kind of persons we proved to be among you for your sake. ⁶ And you became imitators of us and of the Lord, for in spite of persecution you received the word with joy from the Holy Spirit, ⁷ so that you became an example to all the believers in Macedonia and in Achaia. ⁸ For the word of the Lord has sounded forth from you not only in Macedonia and Achaia but in every place your faith in God has become known, so that we have no need to speak about it. ⁹ For they report about us what kind of welcome we had among you and how you turned to God from idols to serve a living and true God ¹⁰ and to wait for his Son from heaven, whom he raised from the dead—Jesus, who rescues us from the coming wrath. *The Word of the Lord...Thanks Be to God.*

*** GOSPEL ACCLAMATION ~ *please stand if able***

Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia,

al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.

Repeat alleluia

Lord, to whom shall we go? You have the words of e - ter - nal life.

P: The Holy Gospel according to Matthew....**Glory to you O Lord.**

GOSPEL

Matthew 22:15-22

¹⁵ The Pharisees went and plotted to entrap [Jesus] in what he said. ¹⁶ So they sent their disciples to him, along with the Herodians, saying, “Teacher, we know that you are sincere, and teach the way of God in accordance with truth, and show deference to no one, for you do not regard people with partiality. ¹⁷ Tell us, then, what you think. Is it lawful to pay taxes to Caesar or not?” ¹⁸ But Jesus, aware of their malice, said, “Why are you putting me to the test, you hypocrites? ¹⁹ Show me the coin used for the tax.” And they brought him a denarius. ²⁰ Then he said to them, “Whose head is this and whose title?” ²¹ They answered, “Caesar’s.” Then he said to them, “Give therefore to Caesar the things that are Caesar’s and to God the things that are God’s.” ²² When they heard this, they were amazed, and they left him and went away. *The Gospel of the Lord, **Praise to you O Christ.***

Let All That I Am

Children’s Choir

CHILDREN’S MESSAGE

THE MESSAGE

Rev. Dr. H. Lee Brumback II

HYMN We Give Thee But Thine Own

ELW 686

APOSTLES CREED

(inside back cover of hymnal)

PRAYERS OF THE CHURCH Response: Hear Us, O God.... **Your mercy is great.**

PEACE

RECEPTION OF TITHES AND OFFERINGS

OFFERING PRAYER

C: 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. Amen.

GREAT THANKSGIVING

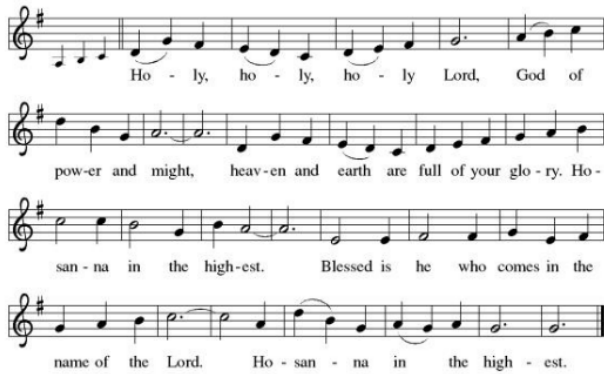
P: The Lord be with you. **C: And also with you.**

P: Lift up your hearts. **C: We lift them unto the Lord.**

P: Let us give thanks to the Lord, our God.

C: It is right to give God our thanks and praise. P: It is indeed right....

*HOLY, HOLY, HOLY



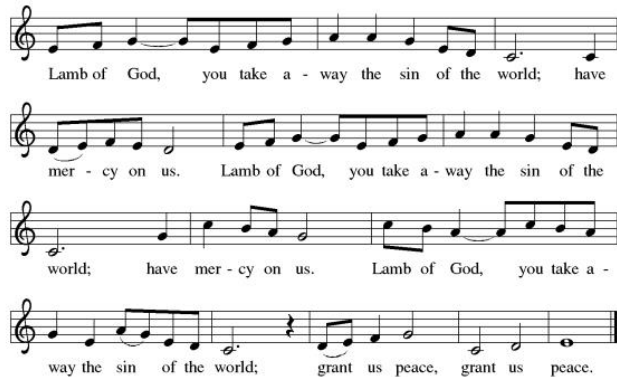
EUCCHARISTIC PRAYER

P: On the night in which he was betrayed ... for as often as we eat of this bread and drink from this cup, we proclaim the Lord's death, until he comes again.

LORD'S PRAYER

THE FRACTION AND INVITATION

LAMB OF GOD



DISTRIBUTION

We practice "open communion" at St. John. ALL are invited to come forward as ushered to receive this life-giving sacrament. Those not receiving communion are invited to receive a blessing. As you are given the bread and wine an appropriate response is "Amen." Please be respectful of this meditative time within our worship.

COMMUNION HYMNS	I Want to Walk As a Child of the Light	ELW 815
	Will You Let Me Be Your Servant	ELW 659

COMMUNION BLESSING

P: May the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ and the gifts of his body and blood strengthen, keep and unite us, now and forever. **Amen.**

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. **Amen.**

BLESSING

P: The Lord bless you and keep you. The Lord make his face shine on you and be gracious to you. The Lord look upon you with favor and ☩ give you peace. **Amen**

SENDING HYMN May the God of Hope

May the God of hope go with us ev'ry day,
to a world in need with news of joy and peace.

May the God of justice speed us on our way,
bringing light and hope to ev'ry land and race.

Praying, let us work for peace; singing, share our joy with all;
working for a world that's new, faithful when we hear Christ's call.

DISMISSAL

P: "Go in peace. Be Kind. Serve the Lord." **Thanks be to God.**

POSTLUDE	O Lord, How Manifold Are Your Works	Barnby
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