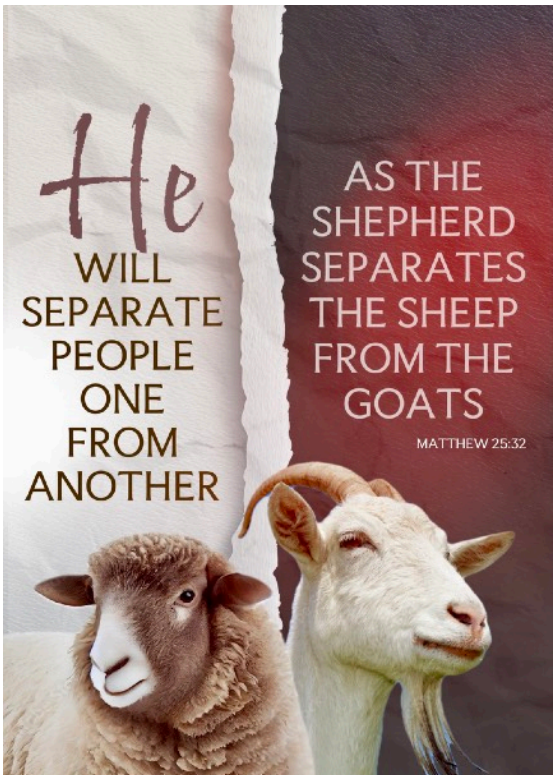
Last Sunday of the Church Year



November 22, 2026

St. John's Lutheran Churches

stjohnslutheranjc.com

Schubert
4409 Saint Johns Road
Jefferson City, MO 65101

Babbtown
7075 Highway P
Westphalia, MO 65085

Pastor: Rev. Ryan Groh
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Prayer Upon Entering Church: O Lord, God the Father, my Maker, Lord Jesus, my Redeemer, Holy Spirit, my Comforter in life and death, I have entered Your house to hear what You will speak to me. Lord, renew now my heart through Your Holy Spirit, for the sake of Jesus Christ, that from Your Word I learn to grieve over my sins, trust in Jesus in life and in death, and daily to better myself in holy life and conduct. Hear and answer me through Jesus Christ. Amen.

About This Service: The heart of Christianity is not what we do for God but what God has done for us in Christ Jesus. We call our service the "Divine Service" because the Divine One, our Lord Jesus, promises to be present to serve us by His Word and with His body and blood.

Are My Children Welcome? Our Lord says, "Let the children come to me; do not hinder them, for to such belongs the kingdom of God" (Mark 10:14). Yes, your little ones are more than welcome! We are delighted to have them with us in the service!

Visitors: Welcome to St. John's! If you have not already done so, please fill out the visitor's book outside of the sanctuary. If you don't yet have a church home, or have any questions about what we believe, teach, and confess, feel free to speak with Pastor; he would be happy to talk with you!

Communion Statement: All visitors are asked to speak with Pastor before the service and prior to coming up for communion. We invite those who are active communicant members of the LC-MS to commune with us. If you are not a communicant member of the LC-MS but wish to come receive a blessing, please cross your arms when you come up to the communion rail to receive a blessing.

Ringing of the Bell

Prelude

Welcome

Opening Hymn TLH 219 "The Head That Once Was Crowned with Thorns"

The Head that once was crowned with thorns Is crowned with glory now;
A royal diadem adorns The mighty Victor's brow.

The highest place that heaven affords Is His, is His by right,
The King of kings and Lord of lords, And heaven's eternal Light;

The Joy of all who dwell above, The Joy of all below
To whom He manifests His love And grants His name to know.

To them the cross, with all its shame, With all its grace, is given;
Their name an everlasting name, Their joy the joy of heaven.

They suffer with their Lord below, They reign with Him above,
Their profit and their joy to know The mystery of His love.

The cross He bore is life and health, Though shame and death to Him:
His people's hope, His people's wealth, Their everlasting theme. Amen.

The Order of Worship, Page 15 *TLH*

Invocation: *TLH Page 15 [Responses Sung]*
P: In the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Ghost.
C: **Amen.**
P: Beloved in the Lord! Let us draw near with a true heart and confess our sins unto God, our Father, beseeching Him in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ to grant us forgiveness.
Our help is in the name of the Lord.
C: **Who made heaven and earth.**
P: I said, I will confess my transgressions unto the Lord.
C: **And Thou forgavest the iniquity of my sin.**

Confession of Sins *TLH Page 16*
ALL: **O almighty God, merciful Father, I, a poor, miserable sinner, confess unto Thee all my sins and iniquities with which I have ever offended Thee and justly deserved Thy temporal and eternal punishment. But I am heartily sorry for them and sincerely repent of them, and I pray Thee of Thy boundless mercy and for the sake of the holy, innocent, bitter sufferings and death of Thy beloved Son, Jesus Christ, to be gracious and merciful to me, a poor, sinful being.**

Absolution *TLH Page 16*
P: Upon this your confession, I, by virtue of my office, as a called and ordained servant of the Word, announce the grace of God unto all of you, and in the stead and by the command of my Lord Jesus Christ I forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Ghost.
C: *[Sung]* **Amen.**

Introit (P: Pastor **C: Congregation**) *Psalm 39:4–5a, 7–8, 12; antiphon: 2 Peter 3:13*

P: In keeping with his promise we are looking forward to a new
heaven and a new earth, the home of righteousness.

C: O Lord, make me know my end and what is the measure of my days;
let me know how fleeting I am!

P: Behold, you have made my days a few handbreadths,
and my lifetime is as nothing before you.

C: And now, O Lord, for what do I wait?
My hope is in you.

P: Deliver me from all my transgressions.
Do not make me the scorn of the fool!

C: Hear my prayer, O Lord, and give ear to my cry; hold not your peace at my tears!
For I am a sojourner with you, a guest, like all my fathers.

Gloria Patri: *TLH Page 16 [Sung]*

C: **Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Ghost;**
As it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be, world without end. Amen.

The Kyrie: *TLH Page 17 [Sung]*

C: **Lord, have mercy upon us. Christ, have mercy upon us. Lord, have mercy upon us.**

The Gloria in Excelsis: *TLH Pages 17-19 [Sung]*

C: **Glory be to God on high; And on earth peace, good will toward men.**
We praise Thee, we bless Thee, we worship Thee,
We glorify Thee, we give thanks to Thee, for Thy great glory.
O Lord God, heav'nly King, God the Father Almighty.
O Lord, the only-begotten Son, Jesus Christ; O Lord God, Lamb of God, Son of the Father,
That takest away the sin of the world, have mercy upon us.
Thou that takest away the sin of the world, receive our prayer.
Thou that sittest at the right hand of God the Father, have mercy upon us.
For Thou only art holy; Thou only art the Lord.
Thou only, O Christ, with the Holy Ghost, art most high in the glory of God the Father. Amen.

Salutation and Collect *TLH Page 19*

P: The Lord be with you! **C: And with thy spirit!**

(prayed together) **– Eternal God, merciful Father, You have appointed Your Son as judge of the living and the dead. Enable us to wait for the day of His return with our eyes fixed on the kingdom prepared for Your own from the foundation of the world; through Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.**

Response: ***[Sung]*** **Amen.**

Old Testament Reading – Ezekiel 34:11-16, 20-24

11"For thus says the Lord God: Behold, I, I myself will search for my sheep and will seek them out. 12As a shepherd seeks out his flock when he is among his sheep that have been scattered, so will I seek out my sheep, and I will rescue them from all places where they have been scattered on a day of clouds and thick darkness. 13And I will bring them out from the peoples and gather them from the countries, and will bring them into their own land. And I will feed them on the mountains of Israel, by the ravines, and in all the inhabited places of the country. 14I will feed them with good pasture, and on the mountain heights of Israel shall be their grazing land. There they shall lie down in good grazing land, and on rich pasture they shall feed on the mountains of Israel. 15I myself will be the shepherd of my sheep, and I myself will make them lie down, declares the Lord God. 16I will seek the lost, and I will bring back the strayed, and I will bind up the injured, and I will strengthen the weak, and the fat and the strong I will destroy. I will feed them in justice. . . .

20"Therefore, thus says the Lord God to them: Behold, I, I myself will judge between the fat sheep and the lean sheep. 21Because you push with side and shoulder, and thrust at all the weak with your horns, till you have scattered them abroad, 22I will rescue my flock; they shall no longer be a prey. And I will judge between sheep and sheep. 23And I will set up over them one shepherd, my servant David, and he shall feed them: he shall feed them and be their shepherd. 24And I, the Lord, will be their God, and my servant David shall be prince among them. I am the Lord; I have spoken."

Epistle Reading – 1 Corinthians 15:20-28

20But in fact Christ has been raised from the dead, the firstfruits of those who have fallen asleep. 21For as by a man came death, by a man has come also the resurrection of the dead. 22For as in Adam all die, so also in Christ shall all be made alive. 23But each in his own order: Christ the firstfruits, then at his coming those who belong to Christ. 24Then comes the end, when he delivers the kingdom to God the Father after destroying every rule and every authority and power. 25For he must reign until he has put all his enemies under his feet. 26The last enemy to be destroyed is death. 27For "God has put all things in subjection under his feet." But when it says, "all things are put in subjection," it is plain that he is excepted who put all things in subjection under him. 28When all things are subjected to him, then the Son himself will also be subjected to him who put all things in subjection under him, that God may be all in all.

Gradual *(Pastor speaks, congregation responds with "Hallelujahs!")*

P: These are the ones coming out of the great tribulation.
They have washed their robes and made them white in the blood of the Lamb.
Blessèd are those whose strength is in you,
in whose heart are the highways to Zion.

C: Hallelujah! Hallelujah! Hallelujah!

As the Gospel reading is announced, the congregation sings… **C: GLORY BE TO THEE, O LORD!**

Gospel Reading – Matthew 25:31-46

31[Jesus said:] "When the Son of Man comes in his glory, and all the angels with him, then he will sit on his glorious throne. 32Before him will be gathered all the nations, and he will separate people one from another as a shepherd separates the sheep from the goats. 33And he will place the sheep on his right, but the goats on the left. 34Then the King will say to those on his right, 'Come, you who are blessed by my Father, inherit the kingdom prepared for you from the foundation of the world. 35For I was hungry and you gave me food, I was thirsty and you gave me drink, I was a stranger and you welcomed me, 36I was naked and you clothed me, I was sick and you visited me, I was in prison and you came to me.' 37Then the righteous will answer him, saying, 'Lord, when did we see you hungry and feed you, or thirsty and give you drink? 38And when did we see you a stranger and welcome you, or naked and clothe you? 39And when did we see you sick or in prison and visit you?' 40And the King will answer them, 'Truly, I say to you, as you did it to one of the least of these my brothers, you did it to me.'

41"Then he will say to those on his left, 'Depart from me, you cursed, into the eternal fire prepared for the devil and his angels. 42For I was hungry and you gave me no food, I was thirsty and you gave me no drink, 43I was a stranger and you did not welcome me, naked and you did not clothe me, sick and in prison and you did not visit me.' 44Then they also will answer, saying, 'Lord, when did we see you hungry or thirsty or a stranger or naked or sick or in prison, and did not minister to you?' 45Then he will answer them, saying, 'Truly, I say to you, as you did not do it to one of the least of these, you did not do it to me.' 46And these will go away into eternal punishment, but the righteous into eternal life."

The Gospel ended, the congregation sings…` **C: PRAISE BE TO THEE, O CHRIST!**

The Nicene Creed *TLH Page 22*

I believe in one God, the Father Almighty, Maker of heaven and earth and of all things visible and invisible.

And in one Lord Jesus Christ, the only-begotten Son of God, begotten of His Father before all worlds, God of God, Light of Light, Very God of Very God, Begotten, not made, Being of one substance with the Father, By whom all things were made; Who for us men and for our salvation came down from heaven And was incarnate by the Holy Ghost of the Virgin Mary And was made man; And was crucified also for us under Pontius Pilate. He suffered and was buried; And the third day He rose again according to the Scriptures; And ascended into heaven, And sitteth on the right hand of the Father; And He shall come again with glory to judge both the quick and the dead; Whose kingdom shall have no end.

And I believe in the Holy Ghost, The Lord and Giver of Life, Who proceedeth from the Father and the Son, Who with the Father and the Son together is worshiped and glorified, Who spake by the Prophets. And I believe one holy Christian and Apostolic Church. I acknowledge one Baptism for the remission of sins, And I look for the resurrection of the dead, And the life of the world to come. Amen.

Sermon Hymn TLH 604 "Great God, What Do I See?"

Great God, what do I see and hear? The end of things created;
The Judge of mankind doth appear On clouds of glory seated.
The trumpet sounds; the graves restore The dead which they contained before:
Prepare, my soul, to meet Him.

The dead in Christ shall first arise At that last trumpet's sounding,
Caught up to meet Him in the skies, With joy their Lord surrounding.
No gloomy fears their souls dismay; His presence sheds eternal day
On those prepared to meet Him.

But sinners, filled with guilty fears, Behold His wrath prevailing,
For they shall rise and find their tears And sighs are unavailing;
The day of grace is past and gone; They trembling stand before his throne,
All unprepared to meet Him.

O Christ, who diedst and yet dost live, To me impart Thy merit;
My pardon seal, my sins forgive, And cleanse me by Thy Spirit.
Beneath Thy cross I view the day When heav'n and earth shall pass away,
And thus prepare to meet Thee. Amen.

The Sermon

Offertory *TLH Pages 22-23 [Sung]*

C: **Create in me a clean heart, O God, and renew a right spirit within me.**
Cast me not away from Thy presence, and take not Thy Holy Spirit from me.
Restore unto me the joy of Thy salvation; And uphold me with Thy free spirit. Amen.

Prayers *TLH Pages 23-24*

ORDER OF HOLY COMMUNION

The Preface: *TLH Page 24 [Responses Sung]*

P: The Lord be with you.
C: **And with thy spirit.**
P: Lift up your hearts.
C: **We lift them up unto the Lord.**
P: Let us give thanks unto the Lord, our God.
C: **It is meet and right so to do.**
P: It is truly meet, right, and salutary that we should at all times and in all places give thanks to Thee, holy Lord, almighty Father, everlasting God … therefore with angels and archangels and with all the company of heaven we laud and magnify Thy glorious name, evermore praising Thee and saying:

The Sanctus: *TLH Page 26 [Sung]*

Holy, holy, holy, Lord God of Sabaoth; Heav'n and earth are full of Thy glory;
Hosanna, Hosanna, Hosanna in the highest. Blessed is He, Blessed is He,
Blessed is He that cometh in the Name of the Lord. Hosanna, Hosanna, Hosanna in the highest.

The Lord's Prayer: *TLH Page 27*

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;
[Sung] **For Thine is the kingdom and the power and the glory forever and ever. Amen.**

The Words of Institution: *TLH Page 27*

Our Lord Jesus Christ, the same night in which He was betrayed, took bread; and when He had given thanks, He brake it and gave it to His disciples, saying, "Take eat; this is My body, which is given for you. This do in remembrance of me."

After the same manner also He took the cup when He had supped, and when He had given thanks, He gave it to them, saying, "Drink ye all of it; this cup is the New Testament in My blood, which is shed for you for the remission of sins. This do, as oft as ye drink it, in remembrance of Me."

The Pax Domini: *TLH Page 27*

P: The peace of the Lord be with you always.
C: *[Sung]* **A - - - - men.**

The Agnus Dei: *TLH Page 28 [Sung]*

O Christ, Thou Lamb of God, that takest away the sin of the world, have mercy upon us.
O Christ, Thou Lamb of God, that takest away the sin of the world, have mercy upon us.
O Christ, Thou Lamb of God, that takest away the sin of the world, Grant us Thy peace. A - - - - men.

The Distribution *(We invite those who are communicant members of the LC–MS to commune with us.)*

Distribution Hymns TLH 523 "Why Should Cross and Trial Grieve Me?"

Why should cross and trial grieve me? Christ is near With His cheer;
Never will He leave me. Who can rob me of the heaven
That God's Son For my own To my faith hath given?

Though a heavy cross I'm bearing And my heart Feels the smart,
Shall I be despairing? God, my Helper, who doth send it,
Well doth know All my woe And how best to end it.

God oft gives me days of gladness; Shall I grieve If He give
Seasons, too, of sadness? God is good and tempers ever
All my ill, And He will Wholly leave me never.

Hopeful, cheerful, and undaunted Everywhere They appear
Who in Christ are planted. Death itself cannot appal them,
They rejoice When the voice Of their Lord doth call them.

Death cannot destroy forever; From our fears, Cares, and tears
It will us deliver. It will close life's mournful story,
Make a way That we may Enter heavenly glory.

What is all this life possesses? But a hand Full of sand
That the heart distresses. Noble gifts that pall me never
Christ, our Lord, Will accord To His saints forever.

Lord, my Shepherd, take me to Thee. Thou art mine; I was Thine,
Even e'er I knew Thee. I am Thine, for Thou hast bought me;
Lost I stood, But Thy blood Free salvation brought me.

Thou art mine; I love and own Thee. Light of Joy, Ne'er shall I
From my heart dethrone Thee. Savior, let me soon behold Thee
Face to face,– May Thy grace Evermore enfold me! Amen.

TLH 310 "Thy Table I Approach"

Thy Table I approach; Dear Savior, hear my prayer;
Oh, let no unrepented sin Prove hurtful to me there!

Lo, I confess my sins And mourn their wretched bands;
A contrite heart is sure to find Forgiveness at Thy hands.

Thy body and Thy blood, Once slain and shed for me,
Are taken here with mouth and soul, I blest reality.

Search not how this takes place, This wondrous mystery;
God can accomplish vastly more Than seemeth plain to thee.

Vouchsafe, O blessèd Lord, That earth and hell combined
May ne'er about this Sacrament Raise doubt within my mind.

Oh, may I never fail To thank Thee day and night
For Thy true body and Thy blood, O God, my Peace and Light! Amen.

Nunc Dimittis *TLH Pages 29-30 [Sung]*

Lord, now lettest Thou Thy servant depart in peace according to Thy Word,
For mine eyes have seen Thy Salvation: which Thou hast prepared before the Face of all people,
a Light to lighten the Gentiles and the Glory of Thy people Israel.
Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Ghost;
As it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be, world without end. Amen.

The Thanksgiving: *TLH Page 30*

P: Oh, give thanks unto the Lord, for He is good. C: *[Sung]* **And His mercy endureth forever.**

The Thanksgiving Prayer: *TLH Pages 30-31*

P: …through Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, ever one God, world without end.
C: *[Sung]* **A- - - - - men.**

The Benedicamus: *TLH Page 31*

P: The Lord be with you. C: *[Sung]* **And with thy spirit.**
P: Bless we the Lord. C: *[Sung]* **Thanks be to God.**

The Benediction: *TLH Page 31*

P: The Lord bless you and keep you, The Lord make His face to shine upon you and be gracious unto you. The Lord lift up His countenance upon you and give you peace.
C: *[Sung]* **Amen, Amen, Amen!**

Closing Hymn TLH 294 "O Word of God Incarnate"

O Word of God Incarnate, O Wisdom from on high,
O Truth unchanged, unchanging, O Light of our dark sky—
We praise Thee for the radiance That from the hallowed page,
A lantern to our foot-steps, Shines on from age to age.

The Church from her dear Master Received the gift divine,
And still that light she lifteth O'er all the earth to shine.
It Is the golden casket Where gems of truth are stored;
It is the heav'n-drawn picture Of Christ, the living Word.

It floateth like a banner Before God's host unfurled;
It shineth like a beacon Above the darkling world;
It is the chart and compass That o'er life's surging sea,
Mid mists and rocks and quicksands, Still guides, O Christ, to Thee.

Oh, make Thy Church, dear Savior, A lamp of burnished gold
To bear before the nations Thy true light as of old!
Oh, teach Thy wand'ring pilgrims By this their path to trace
Till, clouds and darkness ended, They see Thee face to face! Amen.

Silent Prayer - Announcements

Have A Blessed Week!

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UPCOMING SERVICES

Thanksgiving Eve (Babbtown): Wednesday, Nov. 26th 6:00 p.m.

Thanksgiving Day (Schubert): Thursday, Nov. 27th 9:30 a.m.

Advent Midweek Services: "O Come, Emmanuel: The Longing of God's People"

December 2nd, 9th, 16th 7:00 p.m.

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Cover pic artwork: Allan Forbis

The Lutheran Hymnal: St. Louis: Concordia Publishing House, © 1941.

Hymn #219: Scripture: Hebrews 2:10; Author: Thomas Kelly (1820); Tune: "St. Magnus"; Composer: Jeremiah Clarke (1709).

Hymn # 604: Scripture: 1 Thessalonians 4:16-17; Author, stz. 1: unknown (1802); Author, st. 2-4: William B. Collyer (1812, alt.); Tune: Es ist gewisslich; Source: "Geistliche Lieder", Wittenberg, 1535.

Hymn #523: Scripture: Psalm 73:23; Warum sollt' ich mich denn grämen; Author: Paul Gerhardt; Translation composite, based on John Kelly (1867); Tune: Warum sollt' ich mich denn grämen; Composer: Johann G. Ebeling, 1666.

Hymn #310: Scripture: Mark 14:22-25; Ich trete frisch; Author: Gerhard W. Molanus, (1673, cento.); Tr., Matthias Loy (1850, alt.); Tune: St. Michael; Source: "Genevan Psalter," 1551.

Hymn #294: Text: Psalm 119:105; Author: William W. How, 1867; Tune: Munich; Source: "Neuvermehrtes Gesangbuch", Meiningen, 1693.

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Daily Bible Reading:

- **Monday, November 23rd**: 2 Samuel 16
- **Tuesday, November 24th:** 2 Samuel 17
- **Wednesday, November 25th:** 2 Samuel 18
- **Thursday, November 26th:** 2 Samuel 19
- **Friday, November 27th:** 2 Samuel 20
- **Saturday, November 28th:** 2 Samuel 21
- **Sunday, November 29th:** 2 Samuel 22

Catechism Recitation for the Week:

Christian Questions with Their Answers

13. Do you believe, then, that the true body and blood of Christ are in the Sacrament?

Yes, I believe it.

14. What convinces you to believe this?

The word of Christ: Take, eat, this is My body; drink of it, all of you, this is My blood.

* *

Prayer for Departing Church: O Lord, I give thanks to You with all my heart. You have taught me Your will that I might perform it. Help me now, my God, by Your Holy Spirit, for Jesus Christ's sake, that I may treasure Your Word in a heart unblemished, and fortified in faith, lead a sanctified life after the manner of our forefathers, and therein find solace in life and in death. Amen.