# All Saints' Sunday November 2nd, 2025



# **Divine Service 9am**

# St. James Lutheran Church 1213 US Hwy 22 Phillipsburg, NJ

www.strawchurch.org 908.454.2864

strawchurch@gmail.com



# Welcome to St. James!

Founded in 1750, the year 2025 marks our 275<sup>th</sup> anniversary of being God's church. We're so glad you're here! We pray you feel warmly welcomed as we gather to celebrate God's unconditional love in Jesus Christ. He who is the same, yesterday, today, and forever!

<u>If you are visiting today:</u> Thank you for joining us today! If you have any questions, please ask! Pastor Levi and the members of our church-community would be glad to help you out. Please sign the guest book or complete a hospitality card located in the pew racks.

Introduction to the Day: All Saints celebrates the baptized people of God, living and dead, who are the body of Christ. As November heralds the dying of the landscape in many northern regions, the readings and liturgy call us to remember all who have died in Christ and whose baptism is complete. At the Lord's table we gather with the faithful of every time and place, trusting that the promises of God will be fulfilled and that all tears will be wiped away in the new Jerusalem.

<u>Following along in the bulletin:</u> \*indicates the congregation stands. In our liturgical worship, **bold words** are spoken by the congregation. LBW refers to content found in the green hymnbook *Lutheran Book of Worship*. WOV refers to content found in the blue hymnbook *With One Voice*.

Presiding Minister The Rev. Levi Q. Powers

Assisting Minister Dan Gulick Musician Dave Miller

# I. GATHERING

# \*CONFESSION AND ABSOLUTION

Th sign of the cross + may be made by all in remembrance of their Baptism.

In the name of the Father and of the + Son and of the Holy Spirit. **Amen.** 

Almighty God, to whom all hearts are open, all desires are 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.** 

Let us confess our sin in the presence of God and of one another.

Silence for reflection and self-examination.

Almighty and most Holy God,

we confess that we have sinned in thought, word, and deed, through our own fault, our own most grievous fault. We acknowledge our lack of faithfulness in holy service, our lack of discipline and obedience, and our lack of love. And so, we pray to you, O God, have mercy upon us, for the sake of Jesus Christ, your dear Son, our Lord. Amen.

God, who is rich in mercy, loved us even when we were dead in sin, and made us alive together with Christ. By grace you have been saved. In the name of +Jesus Christ, I forgive you all your sins. Almighty God strengthen you with power through the Holy Spirit, that Christ may live in your hearts through faith.

Amen.

#### REMEMBRANCE FOR THE SAINTS

Below are the names of those who died or were buried under the care of St. James Lutheran Church since All Saints' Sunday last year. We remember them in our prayers today, and we give thanks for their lives. We remember and find strength in their faith and the faith of all the saints both known to us and known only to God. A bell shall be rung and a candle shall be lit for each person's name:

• Viola Raub, February 25th

Let us remember all the saints before God.

O God of grace, you sent your Son, our Savior Jesus Christ, to bring life to a world in need. We give you thanks that by his death He destroyed the power of death and by his resurrection he opened the kingdom of heaven to all believers. Strengthen us in the confidence that because he lives we shall live also, and those who have died in our common faith. And comfort us with the knowledge that neither death nor life nor things present nor things to come will be able to separate us from your love, which is in Christ Jesus, our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. **Amen.** 

Jesus says, take my yoke upon you, and learn from me; for I am gentle and humble in heart, and you will find rest for your souls.

For my yoke is easy, and my burden is light.

And you will find rest for your souls.

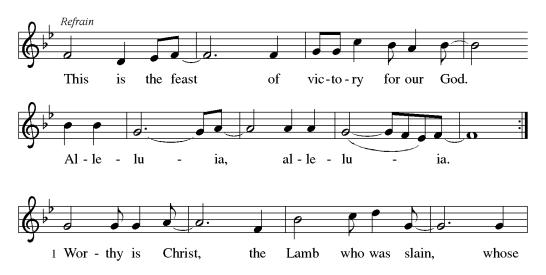
Time of meditation, prayer, and silence, during which you may bring forward your flower in remembrance of your loved ones who have died and are secure with Christ. The hymn "Jesus, Remember Me" (WOV 740) may be sung meditatively.

#### \*GATHERING HYMN: LBW 174 - For All the Saints

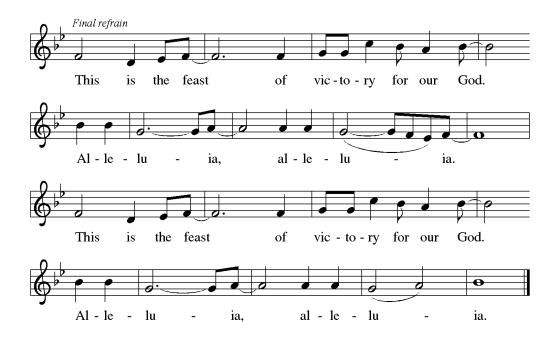
#### \*GREETING

The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit be with you all. **And also with you.** 

## \*CANTICLE OF PRAISE: This is the Feast







# \*PRAYER OF THE DAY

Prayer concludes: Amen.

# II. WORD

FIRST READING: Acts 16:25-34

A reading from Acts.

<sup>25</sup> About midnight Paul and Silas were praying and singing hymns to God, and the prisoners were listening to them. <sup>26</sup> Suddenly there was an earthquake so violent that the foundations of the prison were shaken, and immediately all the doors were opened and everyone's chains were unfastened. <sup>27</sup> When the jailer woke up and saw the prison doors wide open, he drew his sword and was about to kill himself, since he supposed that the prisoners had escaped. <sup>28</sup> But Paul shouted in a loud voice, "Do not harm yourself, for we are all here." <sup>29</sup> The jailer called for lights, and rushing in, he fell down trembling before Paul and Silas. <sup>30</sup> Then he brought them outside and said, "Sirs, what must I do to be saved?" <sup>31</sup> They answered, "Believe in the Lord Jesus, and you will be saved, you and your household." <sup>32</sup> They spoke the word of the Lord to him and to all who were in his house.

<sup>33</sup> At the same hour of the night he took them and washed their wounds; then he and his entire family were baptized without delay.

<sup>34</sup> He brought them up into the house and set food before them, and he and his entire household rejoiced that he had become a believer in God.

The word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

#### **PSALM 149**

The Psalm is read responsively.

<sup>1</sup> Praise the LORD!

Sing to the LORD a new song,

his praise in the assembly of the faithful.

<sup>2</sup>Let Israel be glad in its Maker; let the children of Zion rejoice in their King.

<sup>3</sup> Let them praise his name with dancing, making melody to him with tambourine and lyre.

<sup>4</sup> For the LORD takes pleasure in his people; he adorns the humble with victory.

<sup>5</sup> Let the faithful exult in glory; let them sing for joy on their couches.

<sup>6</sup> Let the high praises of God be in their throats and two-edged swords in their hands,

<sup>7</sup> to execute vengeance on the nations and punishment on the peoples,

8 to bind their kings with fetters and their nobles with chains of iron,

<sup>9</sup> to execute on them the judgment decreed.

This is glory for all his faithful ones.

Praise the LORD!

## **SECOND READING: Ephesians 1:11-23**

A reading from Ephesians.

<sup>11</sup> In Christ we have also obtained an inheritance, having been destined according to the purpose of him who accomplishes all things according to his counsel and will, <sup>12</sup> so that we, who were the first to set our hope on Christ, might live for the praise of his glory.

<sup>13</sup> In him you also, when you had heard the word of truth, the gospel of your salvation, and had believed in him, were marked with the seal of the promised Holy Spirit; <sup>14</sup> this is the pledge of our inheritance toward redemption as God's own people, to the praise of his glory.

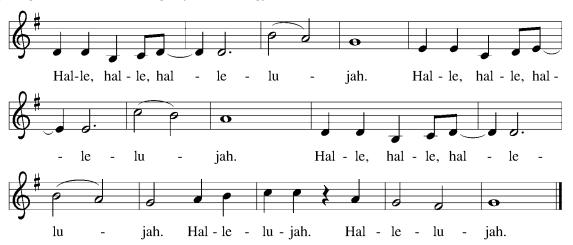
<sup>15</sup> I have heard of your faith in the Lord Jesus and your love toward all the saints, and for this reason <sup>16</sup> I do not cease to give thanks for you as I remember you in my prayers, <sup>17</sup> that the God of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Father of glory, may give you a spirit of wisdom and revelation as you come to know him, <sup>18</sup> so that, with the eyes of your heart enlightened, you may perceive what is the hope to which he has called you, what are the riches of his glorious inheritance among the saints, <sup>19</sup> and what is the immeasurable greatness of his power for us who believe, according to the working of his great power. <sup>20</sup> God put this power to work in Christ when he raised him from the dead and seated him at his right hand in the heavenly places, <sup>21</sup> far above all rule and authority and power and dominion and above every name that is named, not only in this age but also in the age to come. <sup>22</sup> And he has put all things under his feet and has made him the head over all things for the church, <sup>23</sup> which is his body, the fullness of him who fills all in all.

The word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

# \*GOSPEL ACCLAMATION: ELW 172 – Halle, Halle, Hallelujah

{sung before and after gospel reading}



#### **GOSPEL READING: Luke 6:20-31**

The holy gospel according to St. Luke.

## Glory to you, O Lord.

20 Then he looked up at his disciples and said:

"Blessed are you who are poor,

for yours is the kingdom of God.

21 "Blessed are you who are hungry now,

for you will be filled.

"Blessed are you who weep now,

for you will laugh.

22 "Blessed are you when people hate you and when they exclude you, revile you, and defame you on account of the Son of Man. 23 Rejoice on that day and leap for joy, for surely your reward is great in heaven, for that is how their ancestors treated the prophets.

24 "But woe to you who are rich,

for you have received your consolation.

25 "Woe to you who are full now,

for you will be hungry.

"Woe to you who are laughing now,

for you will mourn and weep.

26 "Woe to you when all speak well of you, for that is how their ancestors treated the false prophets.

27 "But I say to you who are listening: Love your enemies; do good to those who hate you; 28 bless those who curse you; pray for those who mistreat you. 29 If anyone strikes you on the cheek, offer the other also, and from anyone who takes away your coat do not withhold even your shirt. 30 Give to everyone who asks of you, and if anyone takes away what is yours, do not ask for it back again. 31 Do to others as you would have them do to you.

The gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, O Christ.

#### SERMON

\*HYMN OF THE DAY: LBW 314 - Who Is this Host Arrayed in White

The Sacrament of Holy Baptism with New Member Affirmation of Baptism

#### Introduction

Candidates for baptism, sponsors, and parents gather at the font together with those making public affirmation of baptism and with the ministers. The assembly may be seated. The presiding minister may address the assembly in these or similar words.

God, who is rich in mercy and love, gives us a new birth into a living hope through the sacrament of baptism. By water and the Word, God delivers us from sin and death and raises us to new life in Jesus Christ. We are united with all the baptized in the one body of Christ, anointed with the gift of the Holy Spirit, and joined in God's mission for the life of the world.

## **Presentation for Baptism**

Sponsors for each candidate for baptism present the candidate.

I present James Trevis Yarnell, Jr. for baptism.

I present James Trevis Yarnell III for baptism.

The presiding minister addresses candidates who are able to answer for themselves.

James, called by the Holy Spirit, trusting in the grace and love of God, do you desire to be baptized into Christ?

The candidate responds:

I do.

The presiding minister addresses parents or others who bring for baptism children who are not able to answer for themselves.

Called by the Holy Spirit, trusting in the grace and love of God, do you desire to have your child baptized into Christ?

Response: I do

As you bring your child to receive the gift of baptism, you are entrusted with responsibilities:

to live with him among God's faithful people, bring him to the word of God and the holy supper, teach him the Lord's Prayer, the Creed, and the Ten Commandments, place in his hands the holy scriptures, and nurture him in faith and prayer, so that your child may learn to trust God, proclaim Christ through word and deed, care for others and the world God made, and work for justice and peace.

Do you promise to help your child grow in the Christian faith and life?

Response: I do

The presiding minister addresses sponsors of candidates for baptism.

Sponsors, do you promise to nurture this child in the Christian faith as you are empowered by God's Spirit, and to help him live in the covenant of baptism

and in community with the church?

Response: I do

# Presentation for New Member for Affirmation of Baptism

A representative of the congregation presents the one making affirmation.

I present Jalyssa Rodriguez of the former St. John's Lutheran Church in Phillipsburg, who desires to make public affirmation of her baptism.

The presiding minister may continue with prayer for those making affirmation.

Let us pray.

Merciful God, we thank you for this sister in Christ,

whom you have made your own by water and the Word in baptism.

You have called her to yourself,

enlightened her with the gifts of your Spirit,

and nourished her in the community of faith.

Uphold your servant in the gifts and promises of baptism,

and unite the hearts of all whom you have brought to new birth.

We ask this in the name of Christ.

#### Amen.

The assembly stands.

#### **Profession of Faith**

The presiding minister addresses candidates for baptism, the parents and sponsors of the young child who is to be baptized, and the one making public affirmation of baptism.

I ask you to profess your faith in Christ Jesus, reject sin, and confess the faith of the church.

Do you renounce the devil and all the forces that defy God?

# Response:

I renounce them.

Do you renounce the powers of this world that rebel against God?

## Response:

I renounce them.

Do you renounce the ways of sin that draw you from God?

## Response:

I renounce them.

The presiding minister addresses the candidates and the assembly.

Do you believe in God the Father?

I believe in God, the Father almighty,

creator of heaven and earth.

Do you believe in Jesus Christ, the Son of God?

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 into hell.

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.

Do you believe in God the Holy Spirit?

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.

# **New Member Affirmation of Baptism**

The presiding minister addresses those making public affirmation of baptism.

Sister in Christ who is affirming baptism today:

You have made public profession of your faith.

Do you intend to continue in the covenant God made with you in holy baptism:

to live among God's faithful people,

to hear the word of God and share in the Lord's supper,

to proclaim the good news of God in Christ through word and deed,

to serve all people, following the example of Jesus,

and to strive for justice and peace in all the earth?

Response: I do, and I ask God to help and guide me.

The minister addresses the assembly.

People of God,

do you promise to support those who are to be baptized today, and the one standing here who is making public affirmation of her baptism, and to pray for them all in their life in Christ?

We do, and we ask God to help and guide us.

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#### Thanksgiving at the Font

The presiding minister leads the following form of the thanksgiving.

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right to give our thanks and praise.

Water may be poured into the font during the thanksgiving.

We give you thanks, O God,

for in the beginning your Spirit moved over the waters and by your Word you created the world, calling forth life in which you took delight.

Through the waters of the flood you delivered Noah and his family, and through the sea you led your people Israel from slavery into freedom. At the river your Son was baptized by John and anointed with the Holy Spirit.

By the baptism of Jesus' death and resurrection you set us free from the power of sin and death

and raise us up to live in you.

Pour out your Holy Spirit, the power of your living Word, that those who are washed in the waters of baptism may be given new life. To you be given honor and praise through Jesus Christ our Lord, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, now and forever.

#### Amen.

# **Baptism**

The assembly may be seated. The presiding minister baptizes each candidate. Water is poured on the candidate's head, as the presiding minister says:

James Trevis Yarnell, Jr., I baptize you in the name of the Father,

Water is poured on the candidate's head a second time:

and of the Son,

# Water is poured on the candidate's head a third time:

and of the Holy Spirit,

Amen.

# BAPTISM HYMN: LBW 194 - All Who Believe and Are Baptized

Water is poured on the candidate's head, as the presiding minister says:

James Trevis Yarnell III, I baptize you in the name of the Father,

Water is poured on the candidate's head a second time:

and of the Son,

Water is poured on the candidate's head a third time:

and of the Holy Spirit,

Amen.

# BAPTISM RESPONSE (together, when cued):

You belong to Christ, in whom you have been baptized. Alleluia.

# The presiding minister continues:

Let us pray.

We give you thanks, O God,

that through water and the Holy Spirit

you give your daughters and sons new birth,

cleanse them from sin, and raise them to eternal life.

# Laying both hands on the head of the newly baptized, the minister prays:

Sustain James/James with the gift of your Holy Spirit:

the Spirit of wisdom and understanding,

the Spirit of counsel and might,

the Spirit of knowledge and the fear of the Lord,

the Spirit of joy in your presence, both now and forever.

#### Amen.

The presiding minister marks the sign of the cross on the forehead of the newly baptized. Oil prepared for this purpose may be used. As the sign of the cross is made, the minister says:

James/James, child of God, you have been sealed by the Holy Spirit and marked with the cross of Christ forever.

#### Amen.

The presiding minister may also pray for those making affirmation of baptism.

Let us pray.

We give you thanks, O God,

that through water and the Holy Spirit you give us new birth,

cleanse us from sin, and raise us to eternal life.

The presiding minister may lay both hands on the head of the person making affirmation of baptism and say:

Stir up in Jalyssa the gift of your Holy Spirit: the Spirit of wisdom and understanding, the Spirit of counsel and might, the Spirit of knowledge and the fear of the Lord, the Spirit of joy in your presence, both now and forever.

#### Amen.

#### Welcome

A lighted candle may be given to the newly baptized (to a sponsor of a young child) as a representative of the congregation says:

Let your light so shine before others

that they may see your good works

and glorify your Father in heaven.

The ministers and those gathered at the font face the assembly. A representative of the congregation addresses the assembly.

Let us welcome the newly baptized

and rejoice with the one who made public affirmation of baptism.

We rejoice with you in the life of baptism.

Together we will give thanks and praise to God and proclaim the good news to all the world.

Applause is given.

Those who have gathered at the font may return to their places. An acclamation is sung.

**BAPTISMAL ACCLAMATION: ELW 174 – Celtic Alleluia** 



The service continues with the prayers of intercession.

#### \*PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

Each petition ends: "...God of mercy, hear our prayer."

Prayers concludes: "Into your hands, gracious God, we commend all for whom we pray, trusting in your mercy; through Jesus Christ, our Savior." **Amen.** 

#### \*Peace

The peace of Christ be with you always.

And also with you.

The people may greet one another with a sign of Christ's peace, and may say, "Peace be with you," or similar words.
The assembly is seated.

# III. THE LORD'S SUPPER OFFERTORY



Scan the QR Code to give electronically. An offering plate is in the back of the sanctuary if you wish to give check or cash. You are welcome to give to the ministry of St. James Lutheran Church freely and spontaneously. There is no guilt or shame. If you do give, give with a cheerful heart.

\*OFFERING VERSE: TFF 216 - Give Me a Clean Heart

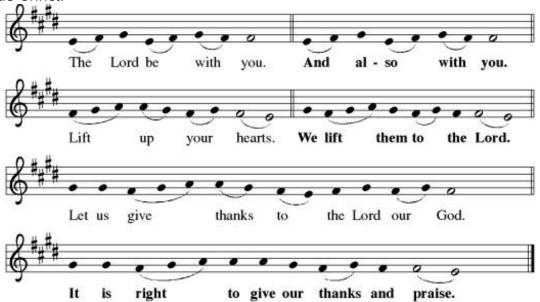


## \*OFFERING PRAYER

Prayer concludes: Amen.

## \*THE GREAT THANKSGIVING

Together with the bread and the cup we receive the body and the blood of Christ. We invite all baptized Christians to this sacrament. Children and adults who do not yet receive Holy Communion are invited to come forward with arms folded for a blessing. If you need communion brought to you, please let an usher know. We commune in tables of 10-15 people. The pastor will give you the bread, an assistant will give you a cup. Then two will come to pour into your cup-the first with grape juice, the second with wine. Whoever partakes receives orally the body and blood of Jesus Christ.



It is indeed right, our duty and our joy, that we should at all times and in all places give thanks and praise...Here the minister continues with the preface for the day, concluding: ...we praise your name and join their unending hymn:



## \*THE WORDS OF INSTITUTION

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.

## \*THE LORD'S PRAYER

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.

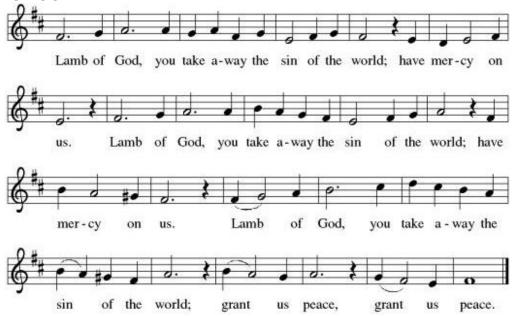
For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever and ever. Amen.

#### \*INVITATION TO COMMUNION

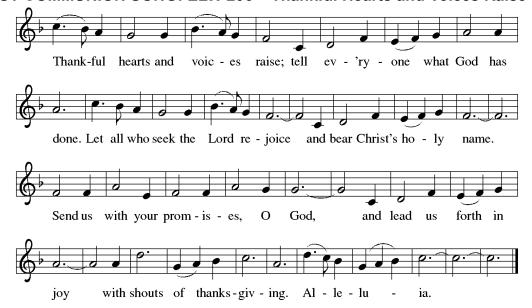
#### COMMUNION

When giving the bread and cup, the communion ministers say
The body of Christ, given for you.
The blood of Christ, shed for you.
and each person may respond
Amen.

## LAMB OF GOD



#### \*POST COMMUNION SONG: ELW 206 - Thankful Hearts and Voices Raise



#### \*POST COMMUNION PRAYER

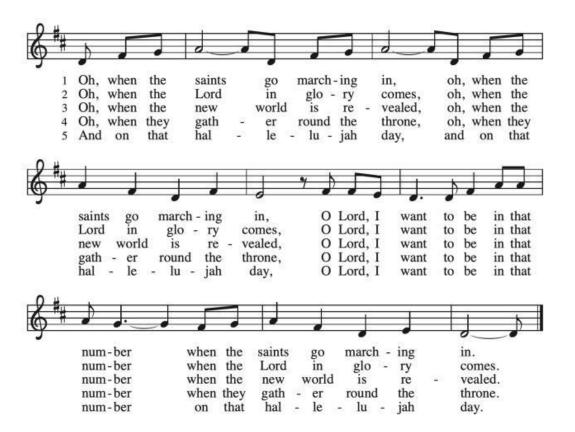
Prayer concludes: Amen.

# IV. SENDING

# \*BLESSING

Blessing concludes: Amen.

\*SENDING SONG: Sending: ACS 950 - Oh, When the Saints Go Marching In



#### \*DISMISSAL

Go in peace. Remember the poor.

Thanks be to God.

Please join us after the service today in Frey Hall for refreshments to further celebrate the baptism of James Yarnell Jr and James Yarnell III and the new member Jalyssa Rodriguez.

Remember in prayer: The Family & Friends of Max Williams, The Family & Friends of Brett Marino, Carol, Kelly, Justin, Stacey, Debbie, Carol, Ryan, Kevin, Keith, Sara, Bob, Patrick, John, Gary, Sharon and those unable to attend church service; Janet, Janice, Greg, Helen, Alayne and Elsie.

**Social Ministry Donation Collections:** 

- Veterans needs collection now thru November 9th. Items needed are posted on the Veterans barrel in Frey Hall Lobby.
- Food Drive collection: Social Ministry supports 175 Families thru River of Life & St. Luke's Church in Phillipsburg.

# **ANNOUNCEMENTS**

This week's flowers donated by Anderson Raub in honor of Viola Raub.

Pastor Levi was selected to attend the International Theological Seminar for Pastors by the Lutheran World Federation. This continuing education opportunity will take place November 8th through 22nd in Wittenberg, Germany. If you need the on-call pastor while he is away, please contact our church president Jon Slaton at 908-319-3992.

- Wednesday 11/5: Fellowship at Sharky's 4pm-6pm
- Thursday 11/6: Proverbs Bible Study with Pastor Levi 10am at church

# <u>UPCOMING</u>

- Tuesday, 11/11: Social Ministry meeting 10am at the church. All are welcome!
- **Tuesday 11/11:** Property Committee 10am at the church.
- **Sunday 11/23:** Thanksgiving Brunch after church. There is a sign up sheet on the bulletin board in the hallway.

**Worship Helpers**: Joanne Willauer will be coordinating the monthly schedule. Please contact her at 610-393-6317 or <a href="mailto:jdwillauer@rcn.com">jdwillauer@rcn.com</a> with your available dates!

# **THIS WEEK'S WORSHIP HELPERS**

**Usher/Greeter: Harvey Walters** 

**Lector: Rick Brunsell** 

**Altar Guild: Steve Stocker** 

Tellers: Steve Stocker/Jon Slaton

# **NEXT SUNDAY'S WORSHIP HELPERS(11/9)**

**Usher/Greeter: Doris Lauer** 

**Lector: Harvey Walters** 

Altar Guild: Barbara and Jim Sikra

**Tellers: Sandy Wismer/Don Willauer**