SERVICE OF THE WORD

REFORMATION SUNDAY

THE TWENTY-SECOND SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

SUNDAY, OCTOBER 25, 2026 – 10:15 AM

WELCOME TO ST. JOHN'S LUTHERAN CHURCH!

*The **Bold Print** indicates responses spoken by all.*
The ELW hymns are found in the red hymnal located in the pew.

THE GATHERING

The Welcome and Announcements

The Prelude *My Faith Looks Up to Thee* Traditional

Please stand as you are able.

THE CALL TO WORSHIP

P God is our refuge and strength, a very present help in trouble.

C Therefore we will not fear, though the earth be moved, and though the mountains shake in the depths of the sea.

THE CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

P Blessed be the holy Trinity, + one God, who pours love into our hearts and healing upon the earth. **Amen.**

Confident that God justifies us by grace through faith, let us confess our sin.

Brief pause for self-reflection.

P Compassionate God,

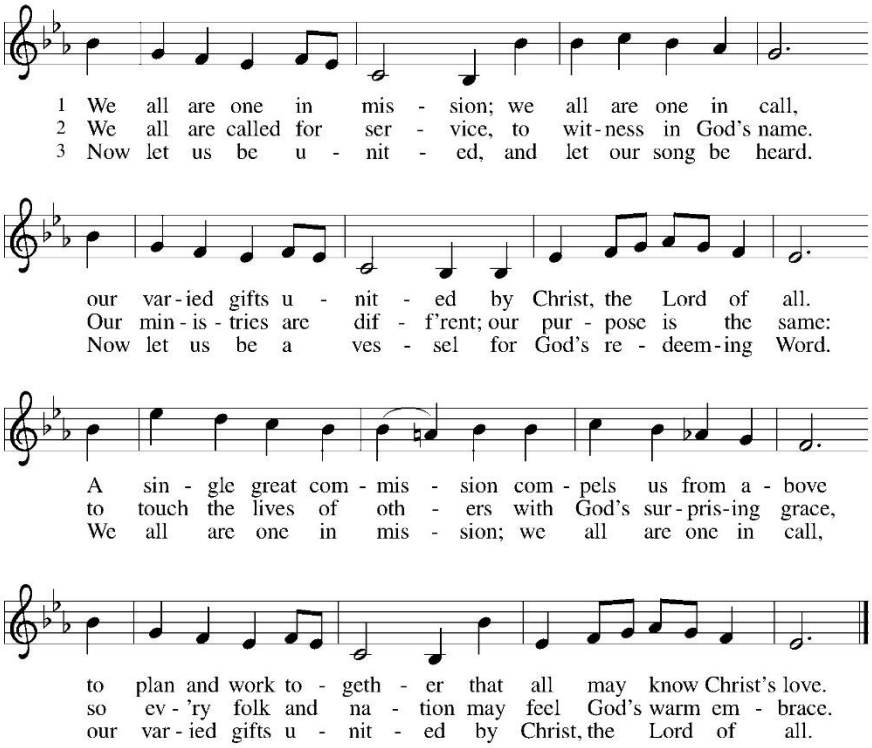
C we confess that we struggle to embody your goodness in the world and in our own hearts. Creation groans from overuse. Jealousy and bitterness strain our relationships. Indifference keeps us from seeking justice. Divisions disrupt your call to show genuine love to others. Turn our hearts back to you.

Restore our world and reconcile us to one another. Renew us to live as your holy people, following the way of Jesus Christ. Amen.

P Hear this good news: We have peace with God through + Jesus Christ, in whom there is no condemnation, but only forgiveness and the promise of eternal life. Receive freely this healing gift of grace.

C Amen.

THE GATHERING HYMN *We All Are One in Mission* ELW 576



Text: Rusty Edwards, b. 1955
Music: KUORTANE, Finnish folk tune
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THE APOSTOLIC 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.

THE PRAYER OF THE DAY

P Let us pray.

C Almighty God, gracious Lord, we thank you that your Holy Spirit renews the church in every age. Pour out your Holy Spirit on your faithful people. Keep them steadfast in your word, protect and comfort them in times of trial, defend them against all enemies of the gospel, and bestow on the church your saving peace, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

Please be seated.

THE WORD

THE FIRST LESSON—JEREMIAH 31:31-34

31 The days are surely coming, says the LORD, when I will make a new
covenant with the house of Israel and the house of Judah. 32 It will not
be like the covenant that I made with their ancestors when I took them
by the hand to bring them out of the land of Egypt—a covenant that
they broke, though I was their husband, says the LORD. 33 But this is the
covenant that I will make with the house of Israel after those days, says
the LORD: I will put my law within them, and I will write it on their hearts,
and I will be their God, and they shall be my people. 34 No longer shall
they teach one another or say to each other, "Know the LORD," for they
shall all know me, from the least of them to the greatest, says the LORD,
for I will forgive their iniquity and remember their sin no more.

L Word of God, word of life.

C Thanks be to God.

THE SECOND LESSON—ROMANS 3:19-28

19 Now we know that, whatever the law says, it speaks to those who
are under the law, so that every mouth may be silenced and the whole
world may be held accountable to God. 20 For no human will be justified
before him by deeds prescribed by the law, for through the law comes
the knowledge of sin. 21 But now, apart from the law, the righteousness
of God has been disclosed and is attested by the Law and the Prophets,
22 the righteousness of God through the faith of Jesus Christ for all
who believe. For there is no distinction, 23 since all have sinned and fall

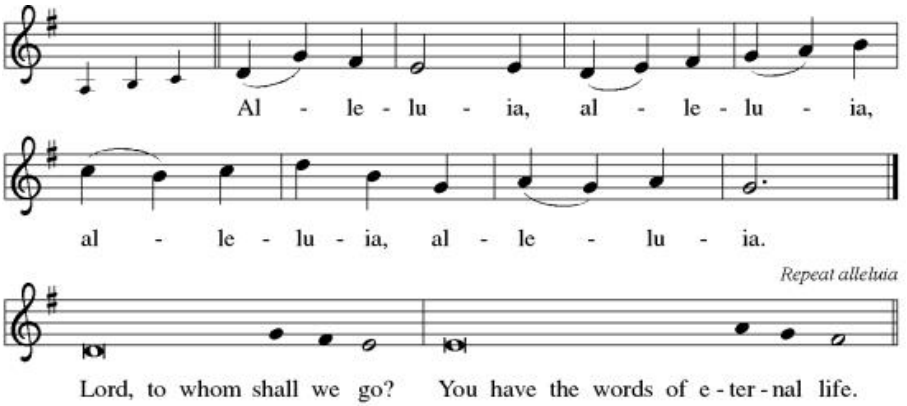
short of the glory of God; [24] they are now justified by his grace as a gift,
through the redemption that is in Christ Jesus, [25] whom God put forward
as a sacrifice of atonement by his blood, effective through faith. He did
this to demonstrate his righteousness, because in his divine forbearance
he had passed over the sins previously committed; [26] it was to
demonstrate at the present time his own righteousness, so that he is
righteous and he justifies the one who has the faith of Jesus. [27] Then
what becomes of boasting? It is excluded. Through what kind of law?
That of works? No, rather through the law of faith. [28] For we hold that
a person is justified by faith apart from works prescribed by the law.

L Word of God, word of life.

C Thanks be to God.

Please stand as you are able.

THE GOSPEL ACCLAMATION p. 102



THE HOLY GOSPEL—JOHN 8:31-36

P The Holy Gospel according to Saint John, the eighth chapter.

C Glory to you, O Lord.

[31] Then Jesus said to the Jews who had believed in him, "If you
continue in my word, you are truly my disciples, [32] and you will know
the truth, and the truth will make you free." [33] They answered him,
"We are descendants of Abraham and have never been slaves to
anyone. What do you mean by saying, 'You will be made free'?"
[34] Jesus answered them, "Very truly, I tell you, everyone who commits
sin is a slave to sin. [35] The slave does not have a permanent place in
the household; the son has a place there forever. [36] So if the Son
makes you free, you will be free indeed.

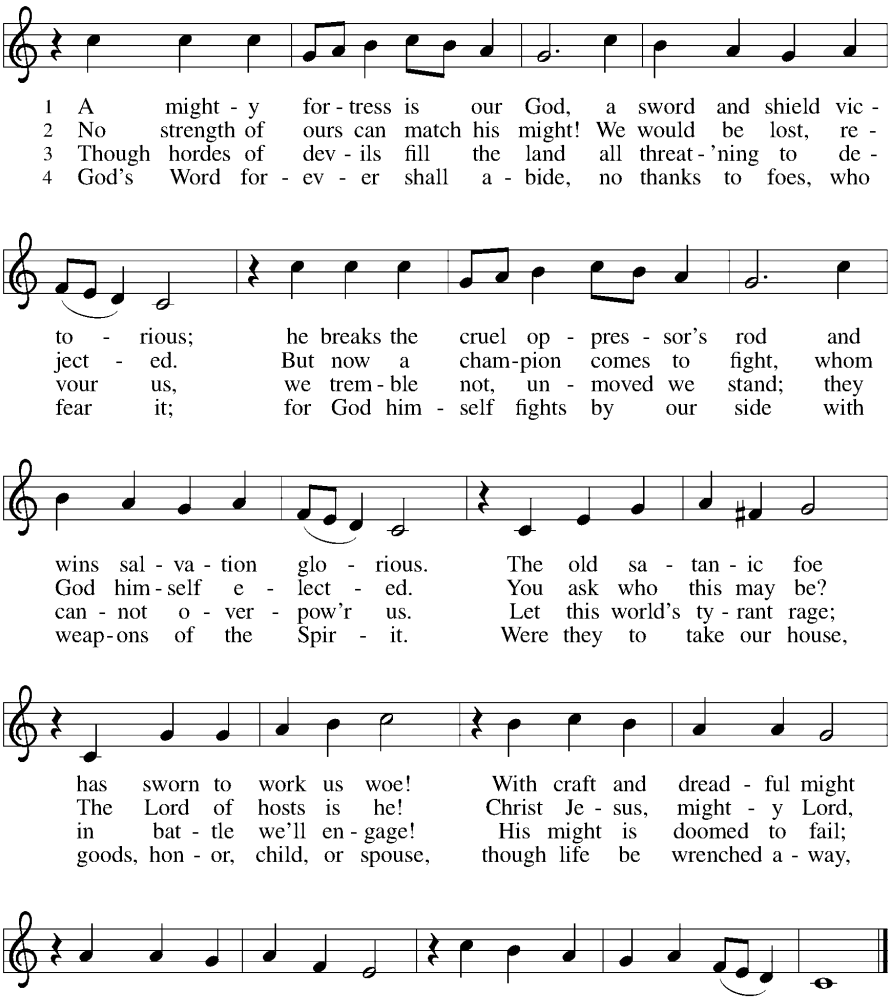
P The Gospel of the Lord.

C Praise to you, O Christ.

Please be seated.

THE SERMON Pastor Trevor Hahn

THE GATHERING HYMN *A Mighty Fortress Is Our God* ELW 504



THE HEALING SERVICE

P Our Lord Jesus healed many as a sign of the reign of God come near and sent the disciples to continue this work of healing – with prayer, the laying on of hands, and anointing. In the name of Christ, the great healer and reconciler of the world, we now entrust to God all who are in need of healing.

THE PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

P Let us pray for the whole people of God in Christ Jesus, and especially for all who are suffering or are in any affliction.

After each petition, please respond:

P In your great mercy,

C hear us, O God.

P O God, we bring these intercessions before you, knowing that you will hear us as you promised, and will answer according to the mercy shown in Jesus Christ our Savior and Lord.

C Amen.

THE LAYING ON OF HANDS

P Sisters and brothers, I invite you to come and receive a sign of healing and wholeness in the name of the triune God.

Those who wish to receive laying on of hands shall approach either station (Pastor Hahn or Debbie Barhight). The minister lays hands on each person's head and says:

P In the name of our Savior Jesus Christ, be strengthened and filled with God's grace, that you may know the healing power of the Spirit.

C Amen.

After all have returned to their places, the minister continues.

P Let us pray.
Living God, through the laying on of hands, grant comfort in suffering to all who are in need of healing. When they are afraid, give them courage; when afflicted, give them patience; when dejected, give them hope; and when alone, assure them of the support of your holy people. We ask this through Christ our Lord.

C Amen.

THE HEALING CONCLUDING BLESSING

P Almighty God, who is a strong tower to all, to whom all things in heaven and on earth bow and obey, be now and evermore your sure defense, and help you to know that the name given to us for health and salvation is the name of our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ.

C Amen.

THE PEACE

P The peace of Christ be with you all.

C And also with you.

The assembly is invited to share a sign of peace with one another.

Please be seated.

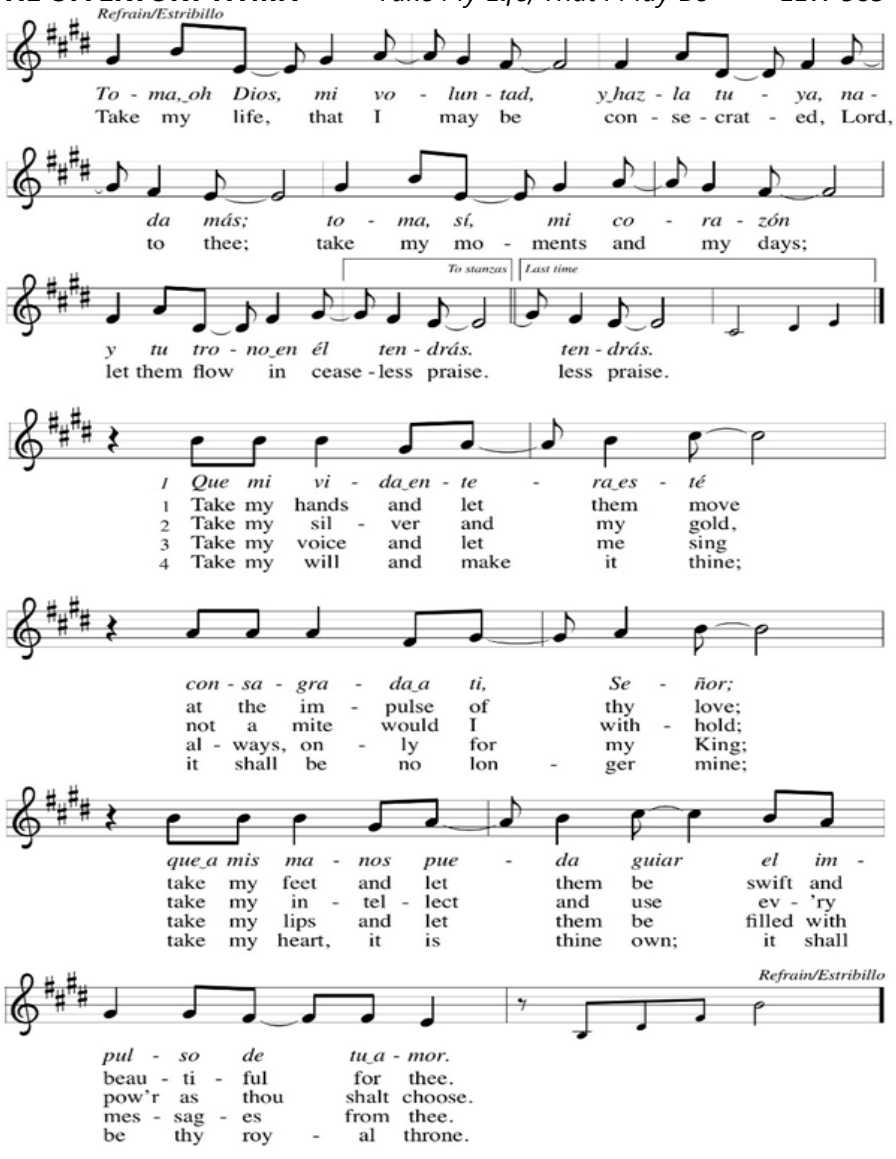
THE THANKSGIVING

THE OFFERTORY *The Church's One Foundation* Wesley

THE ANTHEM *We Are The Church* Price, Besig

Please stand as you are able.

THE OFFERTORY HYMN *Take My Life, That I May Be* ELW 583



2 *Que mis pies tan sólo en pos*
de lo santo puedan ir,
y que a ti, Señor, mi voz,
se complazca en bendecir. Estribillo

3 *Que mis labios al hablar*
hablen sólo de tu amor;
que mis bienes dedicar
yo los quiera a ti, Señor. Estribillo

4 *Que mi tiempo todo esté*
consagrado a tu loor;
que mi mente y su poder
sean usados en tu honor. Estribillo

Text: Frances R. Havergal, 1836–1879, adapt.; Spanish text: Vincent Mendoza, 1875–1955
Music: TOMA MI VOLUNTAD, William Dexheimer Pharris, b. 1956
Music © 1999 Augsburg Fortress.

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THE OFFERTORY 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.

THE THANKSGIVING FOR THE WORD

P The Lord be with you.

C And also with you.

P Lift up your hearts.

C We lift them to the Lord.

P Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

C It is right to give our thanks and praise.

P Holy God, mighty Fortress, loving Redeemer, steadfast Comforter, as vegetation matures in forests and fields, your living Word undergirds all that lives.

C We praise your eternal Word.

P In the words of the scriptures you offer us Christ: our refuge, our savior, our friend, accompanying us throughout our years and renewing us in love.

C We praise Jesus, your Word.

P We pray for power from your abiding Spirit. Strengthen us to stand firm in faith, in devotion to your Word, and in service to others.

C We pray for the Spirit of your Word.

P To you be honor and praise and glory, today and forever.

C Amen.

THE LORD'S PRAYER

P Gathered into one by the Holy Spirit, let us pray as Jesus taught:

C 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;

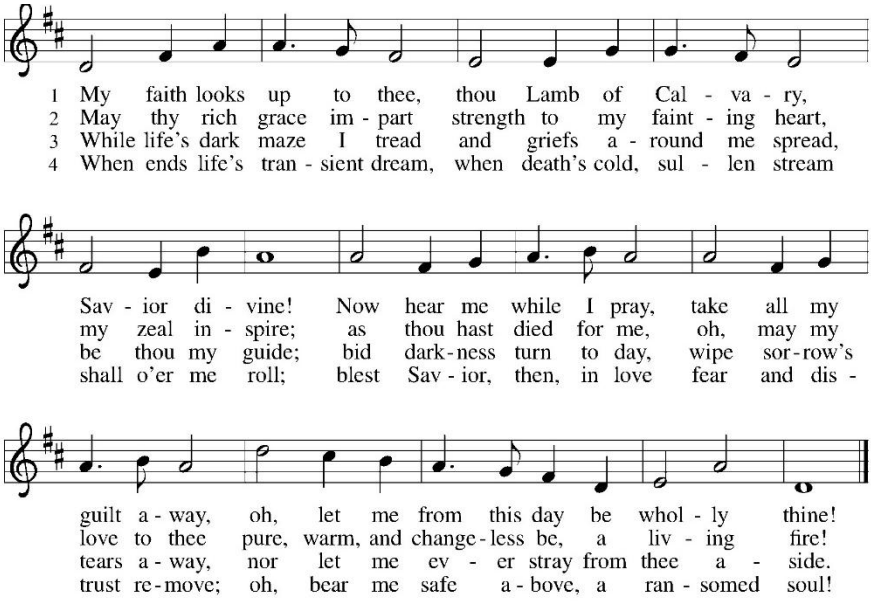
and lead us not into temptation,
but deliver us from evil.
For thine is the kingdom, the power, and the glory,
forever and ever. Amen.

THE BENEDICTION

P The Lord bless you and keep you,
The Lord's face shine on you with grace and mercy.
The Lord look upon you with favor and ✝ give you peace.

C Amen. Amen. Amen. (Sung)

THE SENDING HYMN *My Faith Looks Up to Thee* ELW 759



Text: Ray Palmer, 1808–1887
Music: OLIVET, Lowell Mason, 1792–1872

THE DISMISSAL

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

C Thanks be to God.

The Postlude *A Mighty Fortress* Traditional

SERVING OUR PARISH TODAY – 10:15 A.M.

Presiding Minister	Pastor Trevor Hahn
Organist / Choir Director	Fawn Albert
Acolyte / Bell Ringer	Hayden Winch
Lector	Cheryl Burke
Camera Operator	Bobbi Jo Kline
Ushers	Tom Campbell (DIC), Debbie Cunfer, Sharon Stehly, & Ariana Williams
Altar Guild	Denise Miller & Jill Schaffer

COMMEMORATIONS TO THE GLORY OF GOD

The chancel flowers and bulletins are presented in honor of Trisha VanHorn's Birthday by Paul & Angela Schoenberger.

KEEP IN YOUR PRAYERS: Fawn Albert, Burlene Balliet, Janice Beck, Donna Blose, Carolyn Bostick, Nancy Ceci, Steven Ceci, Dolly Cunfer, Janice Dormida, Linda Durback, Elise, Carol Evans, Lee Henninger, Linda Humanick, Bob Kroboth, Dawson Kunz, Paul L., Joanne M., Jeff McAuliffe, Bartine Mummey, Preston Raber, Betsy Rauch, Veronica Redline, Hope Roberts, Doris Snyder, Ed Stephen, Colson Tkach, Lydia Weaver, and Bill Yelland.

ATTENDANCE LAST SUNDAY: 8:00 AM—22 10:15 AM—52
S.S. —26

OFFERING LAST WEEK: $1,066.92

THIS WEEK'S ACTIVITIES:

Today	8:00 AM—Service of the Word
	9:00 AM—Sunday School / Confirmation / Reformation Coffee Hour
	10:15 AM—Service of the Word/Healing Service
	6:00 PM—N.L. Pool Meeting
	8:00 PM—A.A.
Monday	**CHURCH OFFICE CLOSED-Sharon Vacation Day**
	7:00 PM—Church Council Meeting
Tuesday	4:00-7:00 PM—Pierogi Pick-Up
Wednesday	10:00 AM—Chair Yoga
	5:30-8:00 PM—N.L. Trick-or-Treat Outreach
Thursday	8:00 PM—A.A.

Saturday 9:00-11:00 AM—Soup & Sandwich Pick-up

TURN CLOCKS BACK ONE HOUR!

ANNOUNCEMENTS

HAPPY BIRTHDAY THIS WEEK TO: Alyssa Bachman, Jacob Bachman, Janet Byler, Serena Haas, Trinity Haydt, Skylar Klingle, Judith Muthard, Christine Sigley, Stephen Stehly, Stephen Tomsic Jr., and Alan Wehr.

HAPPY BAPTISMAL ANNIVERSARY THIS WEEK TO: Charles Cunfer, Debbie Cunfer, Robert Cunfer, Summer Davies, Mary Farrell, Aleah Nothstein, Rafe Perich, Jeffrey Pugh, Jessica Rehrig, Stella Scanlon, Alex Sigley, Noah Sigley, Nathan Troxell, and Samantha Troxell.

REFORMATION SUNDAY is *TODAY*. This is in honor of the day back in 1517, 509 years ago, when Martin Luther posted his 95 theses on the door of the Castle Church in Wittenberg, Germany. The October 31 date is the day most often cited as the start of the Reformation.

REFORMATION COFFEE HOUR – The Youth Gathering Committee is sponsoring a coffee hour in celebration of the 509th anniversary of the Reformation *TODAY* between the two services, from 9:00 to 10:00 A.M. Stop by for some food and fellowship!

THE 10:15 A.M. WORSHIP SERVICE this morning will be a Service of Healing. Set within the worship, the healing service allows us an opportunity to connect with one another through Christ, praying for the best for one another. Just as with baptism, new members joining, and so on, the service follows the hymn of the day. The prayers are changed for this service and those wishing to come forward for laying on of hands, in the Pauline tradition, will be invited to do so. There will be two stations, one with Pastor and one with Debbie Barhight. All prayer requests at the time of laying on of hands are presented before God privately in your heart. The service continues afterwards with the sharing of peace, another sign of healing among God's people.

OCTOBER FOOD SALE ORDERS ARE DUE TODAY – The Catering Committee is sponsoring a soup, sandwich, and PA Dutch corn pie sale for October. The order forms are orange and due back *TODAY*. Pick-up will be on Saturday (October 31) from 9:00 to 11:00 A.M. The sandwich choice is a roast beef French dip sandwich. Soup choices are: Amish chicken corn chowder, crab bisque, and Jambalaya soup. The PA Dutch corn pies will be frozen. Return order forms to Harrison Williams. You can call your order into Harrison at 610-216-4284, or e-mail him at williamshj2514@msn.com.

ALL SAINTS SUNDAY – On All Saints Day, November1 (*next* Sunday), we will be remembering in our prayers those who have died in the past year, as well as others that you would like remembered. Prayer remembrance slips are available on the rear radiator in church. Please fill out a remembrance slip and return it to the church office ***TODAY.***

THE CHURCH OFFICE will be closed Monday (October 26) while Sharon is off for the day.

THE CHURCH COUNCIL will meet tomorrow at 7:00 P.M. in the office.

PIEROGI PICK-UP – Pierogi order pick-up will be from 4:00 to 7:00 P.M. on Tuesday in the Fellowship Hall

SPONSORS are needed for a couple Sundays this Fall. Open dates are:
Flower sponsors for November 1 (*next* Sunday) and December 27. Flowers are $35.00 per date.
Bulletin sponsors for December 6 and 24 (later Christmas Eve service). Bulletins are $25.00 per date.
Sign up for any open dates on the sponsor charts outside the church office.

COMMUNITY LUNCHEON – There will be a FREE community luncheon *next* Sunday, November 1, from 11:30 A.M. to 1:00 P.M. The menu will include spaghetti with meatballs, chicken cacciatore, pasta, salad, roll, and dessert. Donations of baked items would be appreciated. Everyone is welcome!

WISH BASKET SOCIAL – The W.I.S.H. (*W*omen *I*nvolved with *S*haring & *H*elping) Circle will hold a basket social on Sunday, November 8, from 11:30 A.M. to 3:00 P.M. as a walk-in event. We will also have a bake sale and 50/50 drawing. The Youth Gathering Committee will be selling hamburger BBQ, walking tacos, snack bags, soda, and water. All baskets will be displayed in the Fellowship Hall. You can drop your tickets in the containers any time between 11:30 A.M. and 3:00 P.M. This is our only fundraiser of the year. The proceeds will be used to help with expenses for the Youth Gathering. Basket social tickets will be $5.00 or five tickets for $20.00 and can only be purchased the day of the basket social.
We are looking for the following donations:

- A gift basket (value $20.00 or more). o Gift cards.
- Baked goods for the bake sale (donations can be brought Saturday, November 7, or the day of the basket social).
- Items for a basket (we will put into a basket).
- Financial donation (any amount) to purchase items for a basket.

All types of items/baskets are welcome. Donations can be dropped off on Sundays, given to any W.I.S.H. member, or dropped off in the church office during normal business hours (Monday through Friday from 9:00 A.M. to 3:00 P.M.). *Donations are needed no later than Friday, November 6*. We are also looking for the following help:

- Assemble baskets and set up on Saturday, November 7, at 9:00 A.M.
- Sell tickets and write down contact information for people purchasing tickets on the day of the social.
- Watch the bake sale table.

There is a sign-up sheet on the usher tables in the back of the church for any one able to help. Thank you for your continued support of our W.I.S.H. basket social!

INSTANT POTATOES NEEDED – The Northern Lehigh Food Bank was formed in 1987 to help families in our community who need assistance in feeding their family. Each church has been given one item for the holiday meal baskets. Our church's responsibility is 200 bags/boxes of instant potatoes. *Donations for the Thanksgiving baskets are needed at church by Thursday, November 12* (basket distribution is Saturday, November 14). We are collecting the boxes/bags of instant potatoes here at St. John's Lutheran Church until the due date. We have 146 boxes/bags so far – 54 more to go. Financial donations are always needed and welcome for the Northern Lehigh Food Bank!

OFFICIAL NOTICE

ANNUAL CONGREGATIONAL MEETING OF ST. JOHN'S LUTHERAN CHURCH

TO ELECT CHURCH COUNCIL MEMBERS AND ADOPT THE 2027 BUDGET

Sunday, November 22, 2026 at 10:00 A.M.

FEET TO FAITH FUNDRAISER – A United States map is posted in the front of the Fellowship Hall with footprints on it. This is a fundraiser for the youth and chaperones going to the ELCA Youth Gathering in Minneapolis in June 2027. You can help them to get to the youth gathering by grabbing a paper foot print for $1, $5, $10, or $20 as a donation toward the costs of attending the youth gathering next summer. Thank you for your support!

COUNCIL MEMBERS NEEDED – The Nominating Committee is looking for several candidates to serve on the Congregation Council. We will be electing a few people to serve for three-year terms. Please nominate one or more people you think would be a good council member on the sheet below. You may place the form in the offering plate. Please return the form to the church office by Sunday, November 15.

NOMINATION FORM

_____

_____

_____

BEST/SELL SCHOLARSHIP – Applications for the Best/Sell Scholarship are available in the church office for students who are completing at least their first semester of higher education by January, 2027 as well as any student who needs to make any significant changes to their original application (such as school transfer, tuition change, major, etc.). The scholarship is available to anyone in college, community college, graduate, or trade school. If you have filed an application before for the Best/Sell Scholarship and have no changes, please call the church office at 610-767-6361 to indicate your desire to be considered for the scholarship. *The deadline for applications for the Best/Sell Scholarship is Sunday, December 6.*

THE ALTAR GUILD is again planning to decorate the church with poinsettias this Christmas season. Donations to the decorations fund are $10.50. Green order forms are on the rear radiator of church. Complete a form and return it, with payment, to any of the Altar Guild members (listed on the order form); place it in the offering plate in a sealed envelope, or mail/return to the church office. *The poinsettia donation deadline is Sunday, December 6. The grower cannot accept any orders after December 6.*

LIVESTREAM NOTICE — Our 10:15 AM service is streamed live online every week on Facebook. The front of the sanctuary, which includes the space for holy communion and children's messages are included in the video. By being in this space, you may be included in the livestream and/or the recorded video posted on our website.

ST. JOHN'S LUTHERAN CHURCH

40 2nd Street, Slatington, Pennsylvania 18080

St. John's Lutheran Church is located in the heart of Slatington, Pennsylvania and has served the Lehigh Valley since 1868.

CHURCH STAFF

The Rev. Trevor Hahn, *Pastor*
Sharon Stehly, *Church Administrator*
Fawn Albert, *Organist and Choir Director*
Angela Schoenberger, *Sexton*

CONTACT

Phone (610)767-6361
Email stjohnslatington@gmail.com

SUNDAY WORSHIP

8:00 & 10:15 AM

SUNDAY SCHOOL

9:00 AM

BUILDING HOURS

Weekdays	9 AM to 3 PM
Saturday	9 AM to 3 PM
Sunday	8 AM to 9 PM

Visit us online at **stjohnslatington.org**
and follow us on **Facebook**

ONLINE GIVING

For your convenience, St. John's Lutheran Church accepts online offerings through Vanco, an online payment processing service.

With Vanco, you can choose to give a one-time offering, or you can create an account to schedule weekly or monthly tithes.

To give today, scan the QR Code above by opening your cell phone's camera. This will direct you to the church's online giving website.

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