

Welcome to St. John's Evangelical Lutheran Church in Lancaster



Sunday Worship

Rev. Jamie Retallack
716-848-9683

5th Sunday after Pentecost
Sunday, June 28, 2026

The Prelude
The Greetings



Confession and Forgiveness

Blessed be the holy Trinity, + one God,
whose compassion endures forever. **Amen.**

Let us confess our sin to God.

Silence for Prayer & Confession

Compassionate God,
we confess to you all our sins. Our burden is heavy, and we cannot free ourselves. In your mercy, call us back to you. Your yoke is easy and your burden is light. Restore us to dwell in your peace. In Christ's name we pray, Amen.

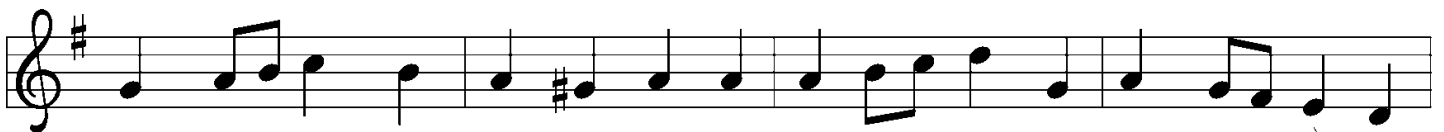
Jesus says, "Come to me, all you who are weary and are carrying heavy burdens, and I will give you rest." In the name of God, Father, + Son, and Holy Spirit, your sins are forgiven. Rest in God's love. **Amen.**

As We Gather at Your Table

1 As we gath-er at your ta - ble, as we lis - ten to your word,
 2 Turn our wor-ship in - to wit-ness in the sac - ra - ment of life;
 3 Gra - cious Spir - it, help us sum-mon oth-er guests to share that feast



help us know, O God, your pres-ence; let our hearts and minds be stirred.
 send us forth to love and serve you, bring-ing peace where there is strife.
 where tri - um-phant Love will wel-come those who had been last and least.



Nour-ish us with sa - cred sto - ry till we claim it as our own;
 Give us, Christ, your great com-pas-sion to for - give as you for - gave;
 There no more will en - vy blind us nor will pride our peace de - stroy,



teach us through this ho - ly ban-quet how to make Love's vic - t'ry known.
 may we still be - hold your im - age in the world you died to save.
 as we join with saints and an - gels to re - peat the sound-ing joy.

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Music: IN BABILONE, *Oude en Nieuwe Hollandse Boerenlities en Contradansen*, 1710

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The Prayer of the Day

O God, you direct our lives by your grace, and your words of justice and mercy reshape the world. Mold us into a people who welcome your word and serve one another, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.

The First Reading
Jeremiah 28:5-9

The prophet Jeremiah spoke to the prophet Hananiah in the presence of the priests and all the people who were standing in the house of the Lord, and the prophet Jeremiah said, “Amen! May the Lord do so; may the Lord fulfill the words that you have prophesied and bring back to this place from Babylon the vessels of the house of the Lord and all the exiles. But listen now to this word that I speak in your hearing and in the hearing of all the people. The prophets who preceded you and me from ancient times prophesied war, famine, and pestilence against many countries and great kingdoms. As for the prophet who prophesies peace, when the word of that prophet comes true, then it will be known that the Lord has truly sent the prophet.”

This is the Word of the Lord.
Thanks be to God.



Psalm 89:1-4, 15-18
(NRSV)

Read Responsively

Your love, O Lord, forever will I sing;
from age to age my mouth will proclaim your faithfulness.

**For I am persuaded that
your steadfast love is established forever;
you have set your faithfulness firmly in the heavens.**

“I have made a covenant with my chosen one;
I have sworn an oath to David my servant:

**‘I will establish your line forever,
and preserve your throne for all generations.’ ”**

Happy are the people who know the festal shout!
They walk, O Lord, in the light of your presence.

**They rejoice daily in your name;
they are jubilant in your righteousness.**

For you are the glory of their strength,
and by your favor our might is exalted.

**Truly, our shield belongs to the Lord;
our king to the Holy One of Israel.**

The Second Reading
Romans 6:12-23

Do not let sin reign in your mortal bodies, so that you obey their desires. No longer present your members to sin as instruments of unrighteousness, but present yourselves to God as those who have been brought from death to life, and present your members to God as instruments of righteousness. For sin will have no dominion over you, since you are not under law but under grace.

What then? Should we sin because we are not under law but under grace? By no means! Do you not know that, if you present yourselves to anyone as obedient slaves, you are slaves of the one whom you obey, either of sin, which leads to death, or of obedience, which leads to righteousness? But thanks be to God that you who were slaves of sin have become obedient from the heart to the form of teaching to which you were entrusted and that you, having been set free from sin, have become enslaved to righteousness. I am speaking in human terms because of your limitations. For just as you once presented your members as slaves to impurity and lawlessness, leading to even more lawlessness, so now present your members as slaves to righteousness, leading to sanctification.

When you were slaves of sin, you were free in regard to righteousness. So what fruit did you then gain from the things of which you now are ashamed? The end of those things is death. But now that you have been freed from sin and enslaved to God, the fruit you have leads to sanctification, and the end is eternal life. For the wages of sin is death, but the free gift of God is eternal life in Christ Jesus our Lord.

This is the Word of the Lord.
Thanks be to God.

The Alleluia

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

The image shows two staves of musical notation in G major (one sharp) and 4/4 time. The first staff begins with a common time signature 'C' and contains the lyrics 'Al - le - lu - ia. Lord, to whom shall we go?'. The second staff contains the lyrics 'You have the words of e - ter - nal life. Al - le - lu - ia.'.

The Gospel Reading Matthew 10:40-42

Glory to you, O God.

[Jesus said to the twelve:] “Whoever welcomes you welcomes me, and whoever welcomes me welcomes the one who sent me. Whoever welcomes a prophet in the name of a prophet will receive a prophet’s reward, and whoever welcomes a righteous person in the name of a righteous person will receive the reward of the righteous, and whoever gives even a cup of cold water to one of these little ones in the name of a disciple—truly I tell you, none of these will lose their reward.”

This is the Word of the Lord.
Praise to you, O Christ.

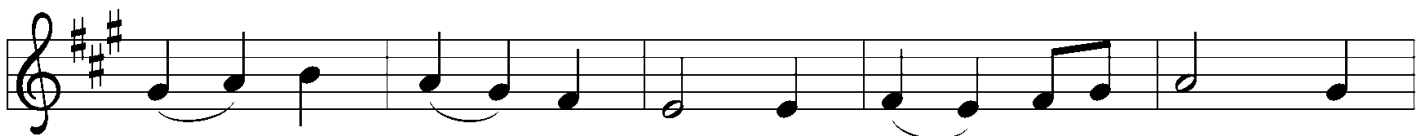


The Sermon
Pastor John Scarafia

The Church of Christ, in Every Age



1 The church of Christ, in ev - 'ry age be - set by
 2 A - cross the world, a - cross the street, the vic - tims
 3 Then let the ser - vant church a - rise, a car - ing
 4 For he a - lone, whose blood was shed, can cure the
 5 We have no mis - sion but to serve in full o -



change, but Spir - it - led, must claim and test its
 of in - jus - tice cry for shel - ter and for
 church that longs to be a part - ner in Christ's
 fe - ver in our blood, and teach us how to
 be - dience to our Lord; to care for all, with -



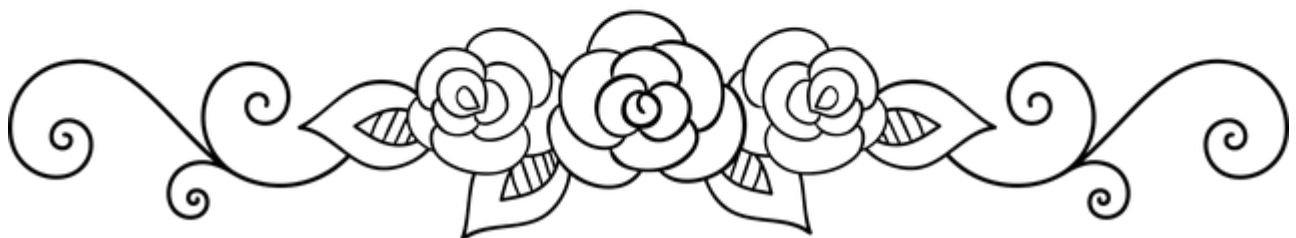
her - i - tage and keep on ris - ing from the dead.
 bread to eat, and nev - er live be - fore they die.
 sac - ri - fice, and clothed in Christ's hu - man - i - ty.
 share our bread and feed the starv - ing mul - ti - tude.
 out re - serve, and spread his lib - er - at - ing word.

Text: Fred Pratt Green, 1903–2000

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The Apostles' Creed

**I believe in God, the Father almighty,
creator of heaven and earth.**

**I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord.
He was conceived by the power of the Holy Spirit
and born of the virgin Mary.**

**He 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,
and is seated at the right hand of the Father.**

He will come again 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 of the Church

God of grace, hear our prayer.

Trusting you receive all our prayers,
we commend our spoken and unspoken prayers to you,
O God, through Jesus our Savior. **Amen.**

The Sharing of the Peace

The peace of the Lord be with you always.
And also with you.

The Offering

The Offering Music

The Offertory Hymn



- 1 Ac - cept, O Lord, the gifts we bring to place up - on your ta - ble.
- 2 The vines were plant - ed, seeds were sown. They grew in your good plea - sure.
- 3 Our hopes and dreams, our toils and cares we lift in prayer be - fore you.



We do not wor - ship as we ought but on - ly as we're a - ble.
What once was com - mon, dail - y food be - comes a ho - ly trea - sure.
Lord, by your grace now come to us, as hum - bly we a - dore you.

Text: Beth Bergeron Folkemer, b. 1957
Music: BARBARA ALLEN, English folk tune
Text © 1990 Augsburg Fortress

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The Offertory Prayer

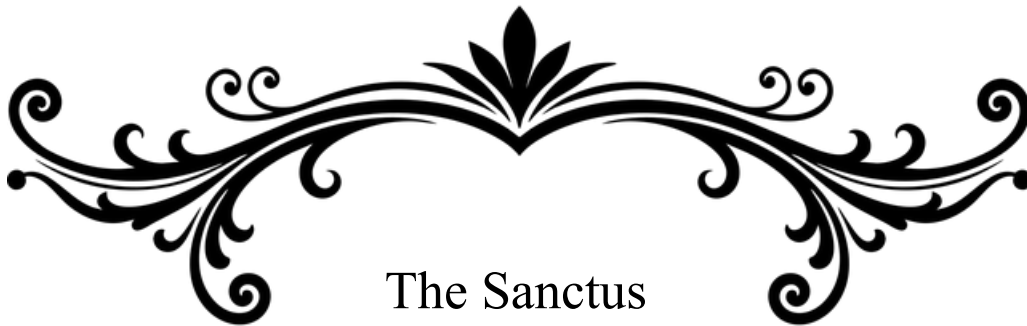
Loving God, we offer at your table the gifts of our hearts. Help us take heart in you and share freely of your love, so that all creation can taste your abundance. We ask this in the name of Jesus, through the Spirit abiding with us now and forever. **Amen.**

The Great Thanksgiving


The Lord be with you. **And also 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 God thanks and praise.

The Preface


It is indeed right, our duty and our joy, that we should at all times and in all places give thanks and praise to you, almighty and merciful God, through our Savior Jesus Christ; who on this day overcame death and the grave, and by his glorious resurrection opened to us the way of everlasting life. And so, with all the choirs of angels, with the church on earth and the hosts of heaven, we praise your name and join their unending hymn:





The Sanctus


Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow-er and


might, heav - en 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. Ho - san - na in the high - est.

Words of Institution

In the night in which he was betrayed, our Lord Jesus took the bread, and after giving thanks He 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, poured out for you and for all people for the forgiveness of sin. Do this for the remembrance of me.

The Invitation

The Lamb of God



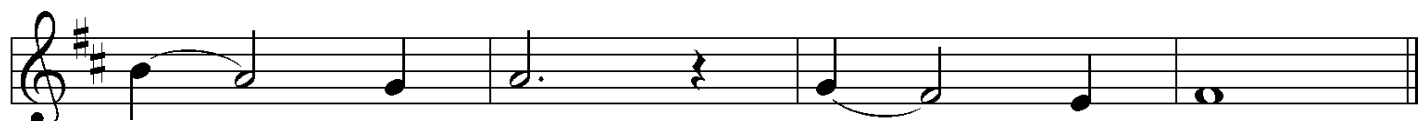
Lamb of God, you take a-way the sin of the world; have mer-cy on us.



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.

Communion Music
LBW 212, WOV 709

The Communion Blessing

May the body and blood of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ strengthen you and keep you in his grace. **Amen.**

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.**

The Sending Prayer

Compassionate God, through the gifts of bread and wine our hearts are filled with the abundance of your love. Strengthen us that we, through this holy meal, may share your love freely, as you have shared with us. We ask this in the name of Jesus, through the Spirit nourishing us now and forever. **Amen.**



The Benediction

Build a Longer Table



1 Build a long - er ta - ble, not a high - er wall,
 2 Build a saf - er ref - uge, not a larg - er jail;
 3 Build a broad - er door - way, not a long - er fence.
 4 When we lived as ex - iles, ref - u - gees a - broad,



feed - ing those who hun - ger, mak - ing room for all.
 where the weak find shel - ter, mer - cy will not fail.
 Love pro - tects all peo - ple, spar - ing no ex - pense.
 Christ be - came our door - way to the reign of God.



Feast - ing to - geth - er, strang - er turns to friend,
 For an - y place where jus - tice is de - nied,
 When we em - brace com - pas - sion more than fear,
 So must our ta - bles wel - come those who roam.



Christ breaks walls to piec - es; false di - vi - sions end.
 Christ will breach the jail wall, free - ing all in - side.
 Christ tears down our fenc - es; all are wel - come here.
 None can be ex - clud - ed; all must find a home.

Text: David Bjorlin, b. 1984

Music: NOËL NOUVELET, French carol

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The Sending

Heaven has come near.
 Go, share the good news!
Thanks be to God.

The People of St. John's Welcome You for Worship Today!

If you would like a **pastoral visit** for any reason, please call the office or call Pastor directly on his cell @ (716) 848-9683.

Altar Guild: RaeAnn Jakubowski

Deacon: Kathy Konstabel

Ushers: Janet Sincebaugh & Rich Rice

QR Code for Offering

Using your camera app you can scan the QR code to go to **St. John's donation page** where you can make a one-time or recurring **offering!** Thank you for giving!



Offering

6/21/2026

\$1511

Quarterly Statements available upon request.

If you would like to receive quarterly statements by mail, please let the office know.

Altar Flower Arrangements:

as of **January 1, 2026**, flower arrangements are **\$40 (for 2)**.

Available Flower Dates: July 5, 19, 26

SAVE THE DATE

July 12 @ Lancaster. A small reception will be held to honor Pr. Jamie's 15 year Ordination Anniversary

One Call Now: If you are not receiving "robo" calls but would like to, please notify the office with the best phone number we can use to reach you. Thank you.

B*I*N*G*O

Join us on Friday, July 17th in the Fellowship Hall for fun, fellowship and prizes! Free to play, and all ages welcome! Doors open at 6:30pm - bingo starts at 7:00pm.

Bingo chips, drinks and snacks will be available for anyone who doesn't bring their own!

Congregation Care Committee

has been cooking meals that are available to the congregation. Help yourself or help a friend! You can pick up a meal from the freezer, located in the fellowship hall, near the stage. Cooking dates are listed on the church calendar. Feel free to join us for a few hours of creating meals and enjoying fellowship!

Congregation Care Committee

will be meeting to cook on July 18th at 12:30pm. We are usually done in about 2 hours. Please join us! Everyone is welcome and all help is appreciated!

BOOK CLUB

Please join us at the Conference Table downstairs in the Chapel Hall at St. John's Lancaster (using the ramp entrance) on Wednesday, July 22nd at 2:30 PM to discuss the historical novel (based on a true story), *WAYWARD GIRLS*, by Susan Wiggs.

We lift up: Edna Mann, Tom Morse, Jackie Wolfram, Dave, Sara Hermsmeyer, Eoin Mast, Arden Kruger, Anna Hart, Kelly R., Bryce, Mary Anne, Paul Rudz, Rob Webster, Jake, Gloria Richards, Joann Thaesler, Cindy, and Joshua B.

Poppi's Pantry is serving this congregation and residents of the Lancaster Towers the **2nd and 4th Mondays of the month from 11-2**. Kindly consider donating time to help. There is a sign-up sheet on the door to the pantry. Thank you!

Poppi's Pantry As we settle into our larger Pantry, we need more help than ever to fill the shelves. Anything you can give is greatly appreciated. Most needed: cereal, ready-to-eat meals (chili, stew, etc.), canned meats, canned fruit, or anything sugar-free. Thank you so much for helping to feed those who are experiencing food insecurity!

Women's Fellowship Breakfast monthly gathering will be breakfast on **Wed, July 8th @ 9:30am at Denny's @ 4757 Transit Rd.**
Please sign up by July 5th.

Grape juice & gluten free wafers are available for **Communion**

The women of St. John's Lancaster and Elma want to say thank you to everyone who donated socks! We were able to collect 222 pairs of socks (men's, women's & kid's) in about a month. All the socks will be taken to the Buffalo City Mission for those in need. THANK YOU!

Buffalo Bisons Lutheran Night @ Sahlen Field:
Friday, August 21st @ 6:35pm. See flyers for complete details.
If you would like to go as a group, contact Greg Wildridge @
gbw1101@aol.com or 716-863-6763.

Follow us on Facebook [@stjohnslancaster](https://www.facebook.com/stjohnslancaster)

This Week at-a-Glance

Sunday, June 28, 2026

Event	Time	Location
In Person/ Online Service	10:00am	Sanctuary
Confirmation Class	11:15am	

Monday, June 29, 2026

Event	Time	Location
Church Office Hours	10:00am - 3:00pm	Church Office
LYMA Golf	5:15pm	Kis-n-Greens Alden
Girl Scouts	6:00pm	Fellowship Hall

Tuesday, June 30, 2026

Event	Time	Location
Council Meeting	7:00pm	Chapel - Conference Area
NA Meeting	7:00pm	Fellowship Hall

Wednesday, July 1, 2026

Event	Time	Location
Church Office Hours	10:00am - 3:00pm	Church Office

Thursday, July 2, 2026

Event	Time	Location
Church Office Hours	10:00am - 3:00pm	Church Office

Saturday, July 4, 2026

Event	Time	Location
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Sunday, July 5, 2026

Event	Time	Location
In Person/ Online Service	10:00am	Sanctuary

MISSION STATEMENT

St. John's Evangelical Lutheran Church provides an inviting environment for spreading God's Word through worship, teaching, and fellowship to address the spiritual needs of our congregation and community.
Open - Inviting - Alive in Christ!

Pastor Rev. Jamie Retallack (716-848-9683)
Pastors Emeriti -Rev. John Swanson -Rev. John Scarafia
St. John's Evangelical Lutheran Church
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www.stjohnslanc.org
stjohnslancaster55@gmail.com

Congregation Council

Janet Sincebaugh (President)
Carol Graham (Vice-President)
Karen McClintock (Secretary)
Kathryn Snyder (Treasurer)

Pauline Bauer	Jeff Miller
Tom Frost	Rich Rice
Sam Gierlinger	Paul Rudz
RaeAnn Jakubowski	Kelly Sieracki
Marjorie Kruger	

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Prayers of Intercession

Gathered together by the Holy Spirit,
let us pray for the church and the needs of the world.

A brief silence.

Faithful God, establish your church to offer welcome and proclaim your peace. Nourish us so we can proclaim your hope to the world. God of grace,
hear our prayer.

Creator God, bring life to places experiencing drought, deforestation, and pollution. Help us to cultivate and care for the natural world around us. God of grace,
hear our prayer.

Loving God, bring an end to conflict and division (*places experiencing division may be named*). Sustain the work of prophets in our time, and work through world leaders to foster understanding, justice, and peace. God of grace,
hear our prayer.

Provider God, give your children what they need physically, emotionally, and spiritually. (We pray especially for Edna Mann, Tom Morse, Jackie Wolfram, Dave, Sara Hermsmeyer, Eoin Mast, Arden Kruger, Anna Hart, Kelly R., Bryce, Mary Anne, Paul Rudz, Rob Webster, Jake, Gloria Richards, Joann Thaesler, Cindy, and Joshua B.) Bless caregivers as they show God's hospitality through their generous service. God of grace,
hear our prayer.

Living God, lead us from death to life. Inspire new ministries and endeavors, renew established ones, and strengthen our welcoming presence to our neighbors. God of grace,
hear our prayer.

Here other intercessions may be offered.

Eternal God, we remember the faithful departed of this community and of the wider church and world. We give thanks for saints of all times and places (*like Irenaeus, Bishop of Lyons whom the church remembers today*). God of grace,
hear our prayer.

Trusting you receive all our prayers, we commend our spoken and unspoken prayers to you, O God, through Jesus our Savior.
Amen.