

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



Saturday Worship

Rev. Jamie Retallack

716-848-9683

All Saints Saturday
Saturday, October 31, 2026

The Prelude
The Greetings



Confession and Forgiveness

Blessed be the holy Trinity, ☩ one God, our dwelling place for all generations, whose compassion never slumbers. **Amen.**

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

Holy God,

we confess that we have trusted in our preparation instead of your invitation. We prioritize our piety over care for your beloved. We trust the voice of our shame and fear, which keeps us from entering fully into relationship with you and others. We are not awake to the coming of your reign. Rouse us and rescue us, that we may enter into your joy. Amen.

Inherit the riches of God's grace. ☩ Jesus, the good shepherd, feeds you with his mercy. You are forgiven. Blessed are you. **Amen.**

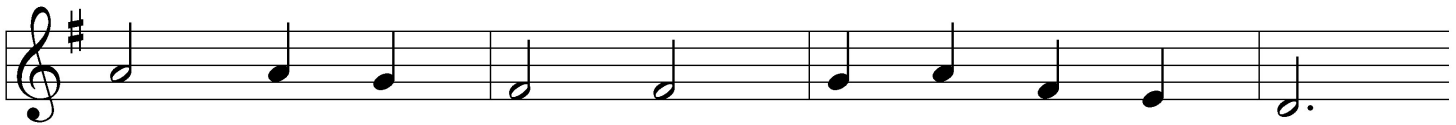
Opening Hymn

LBW 174

For All the Saints (v.1-4)



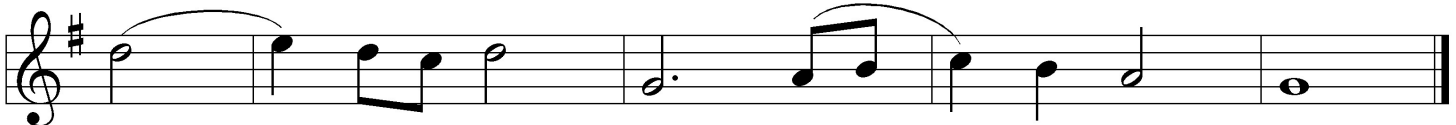
1 For all the saints who from their la - bors rest,
 2 You were their rock, their for - tress, and their might;
 3 Oh, may your sol - diers, faith - ful, true, and bold,
 7 But then there breaks a yet more glo - rious day: the
 8 From earth's wide bounds, from o - cean's far - thest coast, through



all who by faith be - fore the world con - fessed,
 you, Lord, their cap - tain in the well - fought fight;
 fight as the saints who no - bly fought of old
 saints . . . tri - um - phant rise in bright ar - ray;
 gates . . . of pearl streams in the count - less host,



your name, O Je - sus, be for - ev - er blest.
 you, in the dark - ness drear, their one true light.
 and win with them the vic - tor's crown of gold.
 the King of glo - ry pass - es on his way.
 sing - ing to Fa - ther, Son, and Ho - ly Ghost:

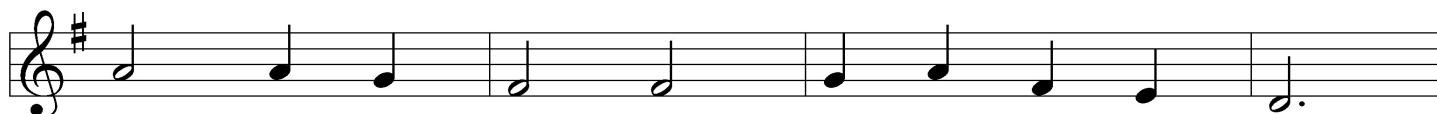


Al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia!

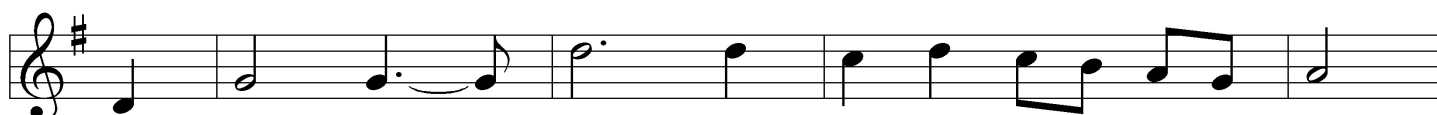




4 Oh, blest com - mu - nion, fel - low - ship di - vine,
5 And when the strife is fierce, the war - fare long,
6 The gold - en eve - ning bright - ens in the west;



we fee - bly strug - gle, they in glo - ry shine;
steals on the ear the dis - tant tri - umph song,
soon, soon to faith - ful war - riors comes their rest;



yet all are one with - in your great de - sign.
and hearts are the brave a - gain and arms are strong.
sweet is the calm of par - a - dise the blest.



Al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia!

Text: William W. How, 1823–1897, alt.

Music: SINE NOMINE, R. Vaughan Williams, 1872–1958



The Prayer of the Day

Almighty God, you have knit your people together in one communion in the mystical body of your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord. Grant us grace to follow your blessed saints in lives of faith and commitment, and to know the inexpressible joys you have prepared for those who love you, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

The First Reading
Revelation 7:9-17

After this I looked, and there was a great multitude that no one could count, from every nation, from all tribes and peoples and languages, standing before the throne and before the Lamb, robed in white, with palm branches in their hands. They cried out in a loud voice, saying,

“Salvation belongs to our God
who is seated on the throne and to the Lamb!”

And all the angels stood around the throne and around the elders and the four living creatures, and they fell on their faces before the throne and worshiped God, singing,

“Amen! Blessing and glory and wisdom
and thanksgiving and honor and power and might
be to our God forever and ever! Amen.”

Then one of the elders addressed me, saying, “Who are these, robed in white, and where have they come from?” I said to him, “Sir, you are the one who knows.” Then he said to me, “These are they who have come out of the great ordeal; they have washed their robes and made them white in the blood of the Lamb.

For this reason they are before the throne of God
and worship him day and night within his temple,
and the one who is seated on the throne will shelter them.

They will hunger no more and thirst no more;
the sun will not strike them, nor any scorching heat,
for the Lamb at the center of the throne will be their shepherd,
and he will guide them to springs of the water of life,
and God will wipe away every tear from their eyes.”

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

Psalm 34:1-10, 22 (NRSV)
Read Responsively

I will bless the Lord at all times;
the praise of God shall ever be in my mouth.

**I will glory in the Lord;
let the lowly hear and rejoice.**

Proclaim with me the greatness of the Lord;
let us exalt God's name together.

**I sought the Lord, who answered me
and delivered me from all my terrors.**

Look upon the Lord and be radiant,
and let not your faces be ashamed.

**I called in my affliction, and the Lord heard me
and saved me from all my troubles.**

The angel of the Lord encamps around
those who fear the Lord and delivers them.

**Taste and see that the Lord is good;
happy are they who take refuge in God!**

Fear the Lord, you saints of the Lord,
for those who fear the Lord lack nothing.

**The lions are in want and suffer hunger,
but those who seek the Lord lack nothing that is good.**

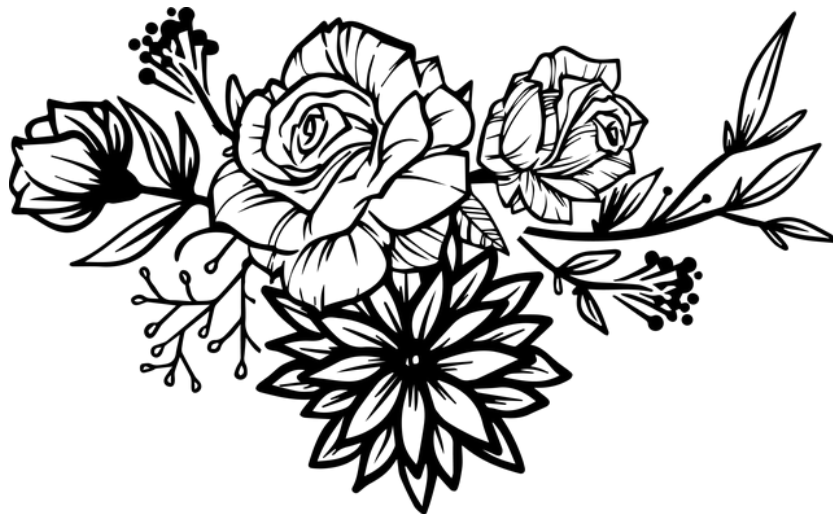
O Lord, you redeem the life of your servants,
and those who put their trust in you will not be punished.

The Second Reading

1 John 3:1-3

See what love the Father has given us, that we should be called children of God, and that is what we are. The reason the world does not know us is that it did not know him. Beloved, we are God's children now; what we will be has not yet been revealed. What we do know is this: when he is revealed, we will be like him, for we will see him as he is. And all who have this hope in him purify themselves, just as he is pure.

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



The Alleluia



The Gospel Reading
Matthew 5:1-12
Glory to you, O God.

When Jesus saw the crowds, he went up the mountain, and after he sat down, his disciples came to him. And he began to speak and taught them, saying:

- “Blessed are the poor in spirit, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.
- “Blessed are those who mourn, for they will be comforted.
- “Blessed are the meek, for they will inherit the earth.
- “Blessed are those who hunger and thirst for righteousness, for they will be filled.
- “Blessed are the merciful, for they will receive mercy.
- “Blessed are the pure in heart, for they will see God.
- “Blessed are the peacemakers, for they will be called children of God.
- “Blessed are those who are persecuted for the sake of righteousness, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.
- “Blessed are you when people revile you and persecute you and utter all kinds of evil against you falsely on my account. Rejoice and be glad, for your reward is great in heaven, for in the same way they persecuted the prophets who were before you.

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



The Sermon
Pastor Jamie Retallack

Shall We Gather at the River

- 1 Shall we gath - er at the riv - er, where bright an - gel feet have trod,
- 2 On the mar - gin of the riv - er, wash - ing up its sil - ver spray,
- 3 Ere we reach the shin - ing riv - er, lay we ev - 'ry bur - den down;
- 4 Soon we'll reach the shin - ing riv - er, soon our pil - grim - age will cease;



with its crys - tal tide for - ev - er flow - ing by the throne of God?
we will walk and wor - ship ev - er, all the hap - py gold - en day.
grace our spir - its will de - liv - er, and pro - vide a robe and crown.
soon our hap - py hearts will quiv - er with the mel - o - dy of peace.

Refrain

Yes, we'll gath - er at the riv - er, the beau - ti - ful, the beau - ti - ful riv - er;



gath - er with the saints at the riv - er that flows by the throne of God.

Text: Robert Lowry, 1826–1899

Music: HANSON PLACE, Robert Lowry



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, in your mercy, hear our prayer.

**Into your steadfast love, faithful God, we entrust all for whom
we pray, in the name of Jesus, your beloved. Amen.**

The Sharing of the Peace

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

The Gathering of the Gifts

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

Eternal God, our time, talents, and treasures are gifts from you. Receive what we offer, and all that you entrust to us, until hungry no more, all the world is fed, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. **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. By the witness of your saints you show us the hope of our calling and strengthen us to run the race set before us, that we may delight in your mercy and rejoice with them in glory. And so, with all the saints, the choirs of angels and all the hosts of heaven, we praise your name and gather at your table.



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 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

Holy God, we have received your never-ending mercy in this meal. You continuously seek the lost, bind the injured, and feed your people abundantly. Now send us out, awake to your presence, now and forever. **Amen.**



The Benediction

Oh, When the Saints Go Marching In



1 Oh, when the saints go march - ing in, oh, when the
 2 Oh, when the Lord in glo - ry comes, oh, when the
 3 Oh, when the new world is re - vealed, oh, when the
 4 Oh, when they gath - er round the throne, oh, when they
 5 And on that hal - le - lu - jah day, and on that



saints go march - ing in, O Lord, I want to be in that
 Lord in glo - ry comes, O Lord, I want to be in that
 new world is re - vealed, O Lord, I want to be in that
 gath - er round the throne, O Lord, I want to be in that
 hal - le - lu - jah day, O Lord, I want to be in that



num - ber when the saints go march - ing in.
 num - ber when the Lord in glo - ry comes.
 num - ber when the new world is re - vealed.
 num - ber when they gath - er round the throne.
 num - ber on that hal - le - lu - jah day.

Text: African American spiritual

Music: WHEN THE SAINTS, African American spiritual



The Sending
 Go out in joy. Encourage one another
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.

Office Hours:

St John's Lancaster M, W, Th 10am-3pm.

St John's Elma Tuesdays 10am-3pm.

Altar Guild: John & Nancy Scarafia

Deacon: Kathy Snyder

Ushers: Janet Sincebaugh & Rick Tomaszewski

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

10/25/2026

\$1337.00

Quarterly Statements available upon request.

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

We pray for: Tom Morse, Jackie Wolfram, Dave, Arden Kruger, Bryce, Paul Rudz, Rob Webster, Jake, Gloria Richards, Melvinea, Pastor Erik Hart, Rosie Cline, Marcus Moen, Joey, Teresa, and Donny

Salvation Army Angel Tree

It's Angel Tree time! Let's assist The Salvation Army in bringing some joy to children in our area during this Christmas season. Tags will be available on trees both upstairs and downstairs, starting November 7th. Please take a tag from one of the trees and replace it with a star. You can purchase the gift listed (or something similar) and then place unwrapped presents in a gift bag with the tag securely attached to the outside. Additional gifts can be purchased, if desired. Gifts should be returned to church by Sunday, Dec. 6th. There are also envelopes hanging on the trees to donate cash or check (made payable to Salvation Army). Please place your envelope in the offering plate or turn in to the church office. Thank you for your generosity! If you have questions, call the church office.

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, December 9th at 2:30 PM to discuss the novel, **THE CALAMITY CLUB**, by Kathryn Stockett.

Save the Date

Election Day Spaghetti Dinner 2026
Tuesday, November 3rd from 4-7pm

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

Your generosity is very much appreciated! Gift cards from Amazon and Walmart are still needed to help provide for Paul's care. Envelopes are available around the church. Feel free to include a message to Paul. Prayers are always appreciated. Thank you!

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 Thank you for the contributions towards our Thanksgiving dinners. We currently have an ample supply of canned vegetables, stuffing and cranberries. We still need boxes of instant potatoes, canned yams and canned/jarred gravy. Thank you!

Ramp Fund The St John's Lutheran Young Men association is happy to report that the ramp fund to help offset costs incurred by the Rudz family is presently at \$830. We will be matching up to \$3000 in donations to the fund. Thanks to all who have given and if not, please consider a donation. You may use cash, money order, or check to St John's Lutheran Church Lancaster, marked "Ramp" or noted somehow on an envelope. Thanks again God Bless! LYMA

B*I*N*G*O

Join us on **Friday, November 20th** 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

There will be (3) **vacancies on church Council** at the end of this year and we are looking for members of the congregation to fill those positions. Members of the congregation are always welcome to attend Council meetings the last Tuesday of every month, and anyone interested in serving on Council may find it beneficial to attend a meeting. If you are interested, contact
Pastor or Janet Sincebaugh.

The women of St. John's Lancaster & Elma would like your help to collect **school supplies for The Teacher's Desk**. The Teacher's Desk is a store located at 22 Northampton Street Buffalo, NY 14209 where teachers shop free for school supplies, books, and teacher resources for students in 250 WNY schools in need.

List of supplies:

Tissues (full size boxes or small packs)
Pens, pencils, crayons, colored markers, highlighters
Elmer's Glue & glue sticks
Spiral notebooks (8 ½ X 11 and smaller size)
Hand sanitizer

Personal care items:

Combs, individually packed shampoo/creme rinse,
toothbrush, and travel size toothpaste

Boxes/baskets will be available at church to drop off any supplies collected. If you have any questions, please reach out to Kathy Snyder. We will be collecting over the next several weeks and appreciate your assistance. Thank you!

Altar Flower Arrangement: flower arrangements are \$40
(for 2). Available Flower Dates: Nov 8, 15, 22, 29

Sieracki/Santucci Thanksgiving

It's that time of year again, and the Sieracki/Santucci family would like to share their blessings with an invitation to anyone who might otherwise be alone for the holiday. If you would like to join them, here at St. John's on Thursday, November 26th @ 4pm, please contact Kelly or the church office.

November 8th Pastor will be leading a Scam Prevention Seminar following the service. Today there are many ways scammers try to reach out and deceive you into giving them money. Knowing what tactics they use and how to detect them can go a long way toward protecting yourself. In this one hour session pastor will cover common techniques used by the scammers, what to watch out for, and how to avoid being taken advantage of. We hope to see you there.

We are considering purchasing a **table of 10 for the upcoming LCLC Meat Raffle** and would like to see if there is enough interest to fill the table. If you would like to join us (18+ only), please **sign up by 10/30 to express your interest**. (Sign up sheet is located by the water cooler in the Memorial Lounge) Once we know how many people are interested, we will confirm whether we will purchase the table. We hope you can join us for a fun evening!

LCLC's Meat Raffle

Saturday, November 21, 2026

Venue Name & Address:

Ellicott Creek Fire Hall, 45 S Ellicott Creek Rd, Buffalo, NY 14228

Admission/Inclusions:

Tickets include entry, beer, wine, pop, water, and a large door prize entry.

Activities:

Win meat packages, purchase tickets for raffle baskets and 50/50 drawings, and play games.

Contact for Donations/Questions:

Reach out to Kaitlyn at kaitlyn@lclcenter.org or call 716-386-4125.

Women's Lunch/Fellowship

St John's Elma & Lancaster

Wed, November 18 @ 12pm @ Bruno's Restaurant
5259 Broadway, Lancaster NY Please sign up by Oct 30

This Week at-a-Glance

Sunday, November 1, 2026

Event	Time	Location
Bible Study	9:00am	Memorial Lounge
In Person/ Online Service	10:00am	Sanctuary
Sunday School	10:00am	
Choir Practice	11:05am	Choir Room - Off of the Chapel Downstairs

Monday, November 2, 2026

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

Tuesday, November 3, 2026

Event	Time	Location
Quilters	9:30am- 1:30pm	Fellowship Hall
YOUTH: Spaghetti Dinner Assist	3:45pm- 7:00pm	
Election Day Spaghetti Dinner	4:00pm- 7:00pm	Fellowship Hall
NA Meeting	7:00pm	Fellowship Hall

Wednesday, November 4, 2026

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

Thursday, November 5, 2026

Event	Time	Location
Church Office Hours	10:00am- 3:00pm	Church Office
Bible Study	1:00pm	Chapel - Conference Area
Handbell Practice	6:00pm	

Saturday, November 7, 2026

Event	Time	Location
In Person Service	5:30pm	Chapel

Sunday, November 8, 2026

Event	Time	Location
Bible Study	9:00am	Memorial Lounge
Sunday School	10:00am	
Worship/Baptisms (Siuda)	10:00am	Sanctuary
Confirmation Class	11:00am- 12:30pm	
Choir Practice	11:05am	Choir Room - Off of the Chapel Downstairs
Property & Grounds	11:30am	



Friendsgiving



November 29th @ 1-3pm

Youth Event

***Bring a Friend**

***Bring a side
to share**

***RSVP by 11/22**

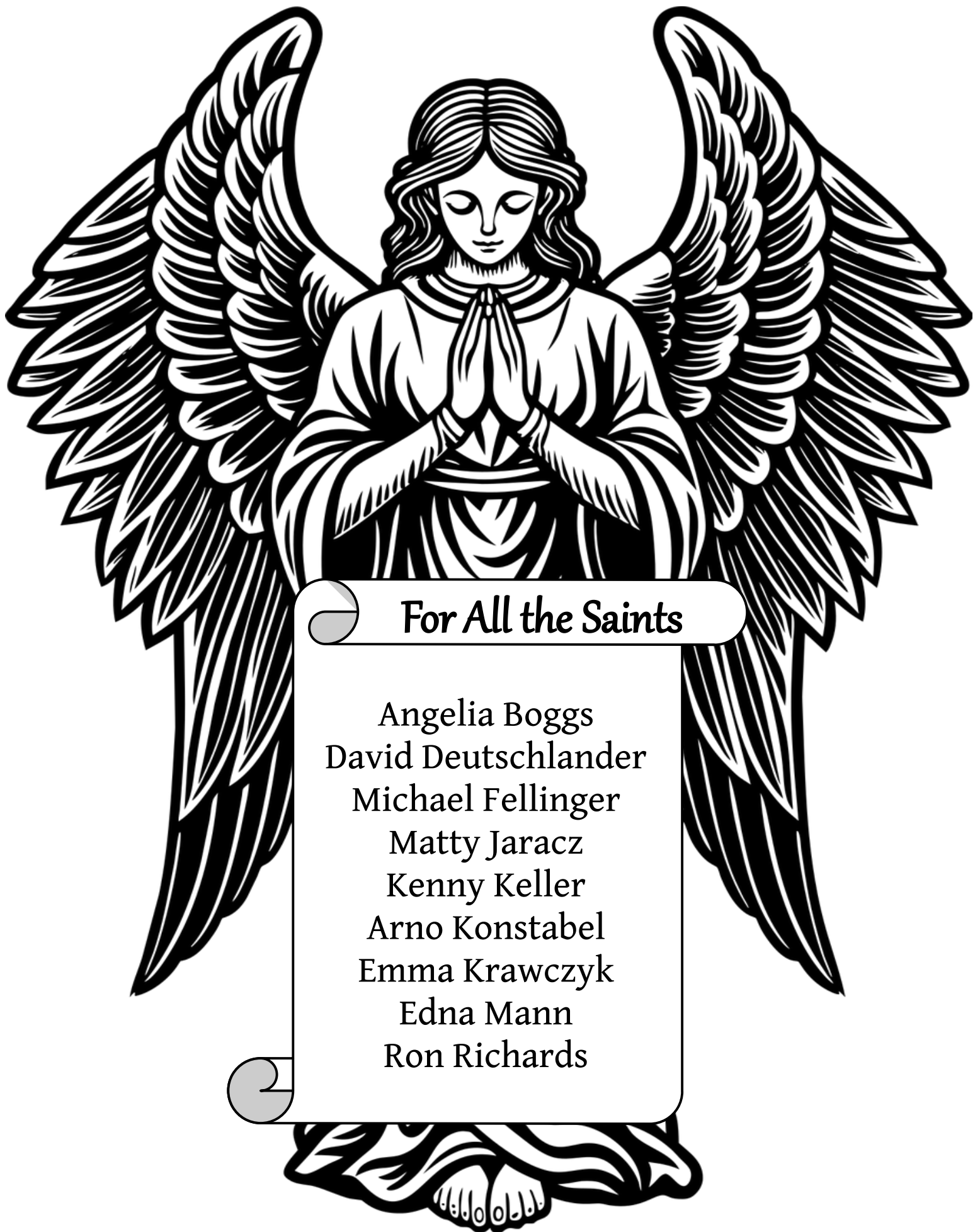
Call or Text Kelly

716-868-3023



St John's Lutheran Church

55 Pleasant Ave, Lancaster NY 14086



For All the Saints

Angelia Boggs
David Deutschlander
Michael Fellingner
Matty Jaracz
Kenny Keller
Arno Konstabel
Emma Krawczyk
Edna Mann
Ron Richards

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
55 Pleasant Avenue, Lancaster, NY 14086
Office 683-8972 (Mon-Wed-Thurs 10am-3pm)
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

United with the great cloud of witnesses, we offer our prayers for the church, the world, and all of creation. *A brief silence.*

Fill your church with mercy and humility as we proclaim the gospel in our worship and witness in the world. Renew and inspire all who preach and teach among us. God, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

Restore all lands suffering from ecological degradation. Protect soils and waterways (*local places may be named*). Point us toward innovative ways of living in harmony and joy with creation. God, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

Unite the nations in their actions toward justice and peace. Raise up leaders who listen deeply for the needs of their communities, and surround the election process with wisdom and discernment. God, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

Bring comfort and care to all who are in need, especially all who mourn this day. Sustain any who are weary, experiencing loneliness, or struggling with chronic illness (especially Tom Morse, Jackie Wolfram, Dave, Arden Kruger, Bryce, Paul Rudz, Rob Webster, Jake, Gloria Richards, Melvinea, Pastor Erik Hart, Rosie Cline, Marcus Moen, Joey, Teresa, and Donny). God, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

Nurture programs and communities that support elders and those who are homebound. Bless caregivers, nurses, chaplains, social workers, and hospice staff. Guide this congregation's ministry with seniors and their families. God, in your mercy,
hear our prayer.

Here other intercessions may be offered.

With grateful hearts we remember all who have died and now rest from their labors

Angelia Boggs
David Deutschlander
Michael Fellingner
Matty Jaracz
Kenny Keller
Arno Konstabel
Emma Krawczyk
Edna Mann
Ron Richards

Fill us with songs of praise until we too are gathered at your side. God, in your mercy,
hear our prayer.

Into your steadfast love, faithful God, we entrust all for whom we pray, in the name of Jesus, your beloved. **Amen.**