

Saturday, November 22, 2025, 5:30 pm Sunday, November 23, 2025, 8:30 am

LAST SUNDAY OF THE CHURCH YEAR



# Changing lives with the love of God to the glory of God

# Welcome Guests!

We're glad you're with us today!

We hope you'll introduce yourself to the Pastor at the Church door after worship today.

# Worship Schedule

Our regular worship times are:
Saturdays at 5:30 pm
Sundays at 8:30 am & 10:00 am
Sunday School at 10:00 am September-June

Serving in the Lord's house today: 5:30: Jim and Lauretta Sauer / 8:30: Erin Bradbury / 10:00: Carol Chirco

Altar flowers have been given- For PaPa Johnner on his birthday.
-From the Johnner Family

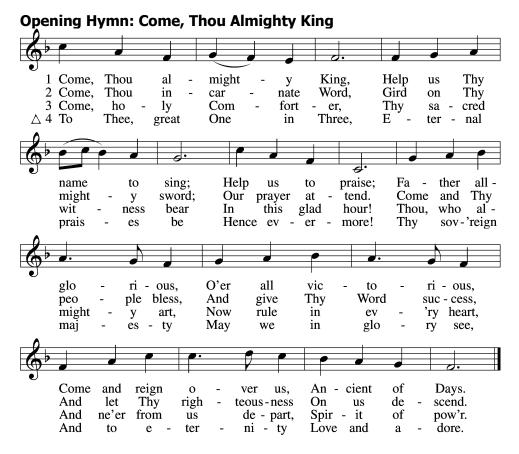
Pastor: Neil Mittelstaedt Pastor: Conner Forbes www.stjlc.com 631- 584-5212

Ministers: All the people of St. James

# Prelude 5:30pm: Thanksgiving Celebration (Chancel Chimes) arr. D. Linda McKechnie

# **Prelude: 8:30am: Thine the Amen, Thine the Praise**

arr. Anne Krentz Organ



#### **Welcome and Invocation**

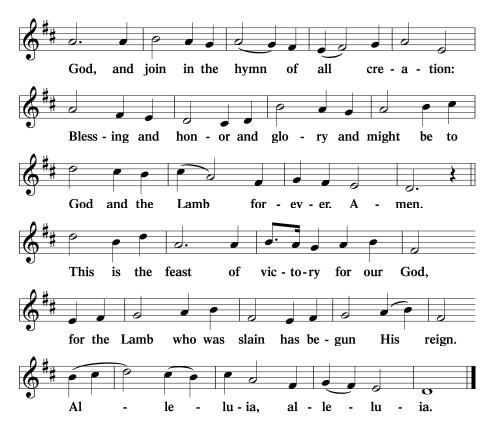
#### **Confession and Absolution**

- © God of all mercy and consolation, come to the aid of Your people, turning us from our selfish desires to live for You. Give us the Holy Spirit, that, attentive to Your Word, we may confess our trespasses, receive Your forgiveness, and then walk in the new life given by Your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord.
- Amen.
- P Let us confess our sin in the presence of God and of one another.

- P Gracious Father, have mercy on us.
- In Your compassion, forgive us our many sins, known and unknown, wrong things done and good left undone. We are sorry and want now to serve You in newness of life, to the honor and glory of Your holy Name. Amen.
- Almighty God has had mercy on you and, for the sake of Jesus Christ, whom He sent to die for you, has forgiven 
   → all your sins.

   Now, living in union with Christ, may He lead you in all good works and, by the power of the Holy Spirit, keep you in eternal life.
- **G** Amen.





# **Old Testament Reading**

Psalm 46

A The Old Testament Reading is from Psalm 46.

<sup>1</sup>God is our refuge and strength, a very present help in trouble.

<sup>2</sup>Therefore we will not fear though the earth gives way, though the mountains be moved into the heart of the sea, <sup>3</sup>though its waters roar and foam, though the mountains tremble at its swelling.

<sup>4</sup>There is a river whose streams make glad the city of God, the holy habitation of the Most High.

<sup>5</sup>God is in the midst of her; she shall not be moved; God will help her when morning dawns.

<sup>6</sup>The nations rage, the kingdoms totter; he utters his voice, the earth melts.

<sup>7</sup>The LORD of hosts is with us; the God of Jacob is our fortress.

the God of Jacob is our fortress.

8Come, behold the works of the LORD, how he has brought desolations on the earth.
9He makes wars cease to the end of the earth; he breaks the bow and shatters the spear; he burns the chariots with fire.
10"Be still, and know that I am God. I will be exalted among the nations, I will be exalted in the earth!"
11The LORD of hosts is with us;

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

# **Epistle Reading**

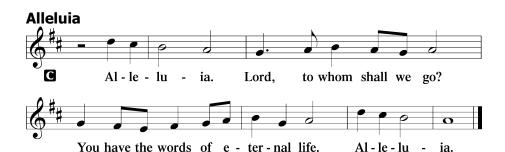
2 Thessalonians 2:1-4, 8-10

**A** The Epistle is from 2 Thessalonians, chapter 2.

¹Now concerning the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ and our being gathered together to him, we ask you, brothers, ²not to be quickly shaken in mind or alarmed, either by a spirit or a spoken word, or a letter seeming to be from us, to the effect that the day of the Lord has come. ³Let no one deceive you in any way. For that day will not come, unless the rebellion comes first, and the man of lawlessness is revealed, the son of destruction, ⁴who opposes and exalts himself against every so-called god or object of worship, so that he takes his seat in the temple of God, proclaiming himself to be God.

<sup>8</sup>And then the lawless one will be revealed, whom the Lord Jesus will kill with the breath of his mouth and bring to nothing by the appearance of his coming. <sup>9</sup>The coming of the lawless one is by the activity of Satan with all power and false signs and wonders, <sup>10</sup>and with all wicked deception for those who are perishing, because they refused to love the truth and so be saved.

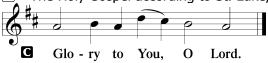
- A This is the Word of the Lord.
- Thanks be to God.



# **Holy Gospel Reading**

Luke 21:8-19, 25-28

P The Holy Gospel according to St. Luke, the twenty-first chapter.



<sup>8</sup>And he said, "See that you are not led astray. For many will come in my name, saying, 'I am he!' and, 'The time is at hand!' Do not go after them. <sup>9</sup>And when you hear of wars and tumults, do not be terrified, for these things must first take place, but the end will not be at once."

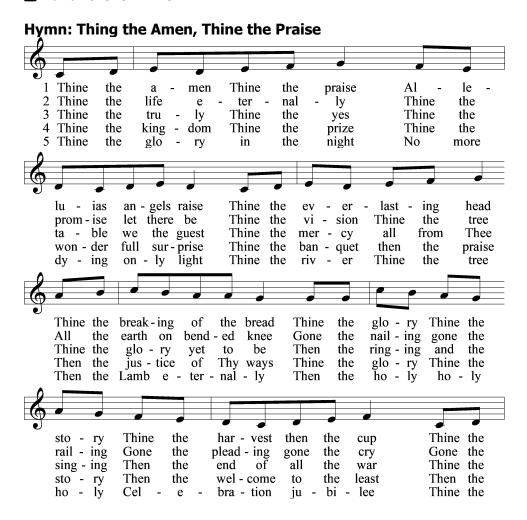
<sup>10</sup>Then he said to them, "Nation will rise against nation, and kingdom against kingdom. <sup>11</sup>There will be great earthquakes, and in various places famines and pestilences. And there will be terrors and great signs from heaven. <sup>12</sup>But before all this they will lay their hands on you and persecute you, delivering you up to the synagogues and prisons, and you will be brought before kings and governors for my name's sake. <sup>13</sup>This will be your opportunity to bear witness. <sup>14</sup>Settle it therefore in your minds not to meditate beforehand how to answer, <sup>15</sup>for I will give you a mouth and wisdom, which none of your adversaries will be able to withstand or contradict. <sup>16</sup>You will be delivered up even by parents and brothers and relatives and friends, and some of you they will put to death. <sup>17</sup>You will be hated by all for my name's sake. <sup>18</sup>But not a hair of your head will perish. <sup>19</sup>By your endurance you will gain your lives.

<sup>25</sup>"And there will be signs in sun and moon and stars, and on the earth distress of nations in perplexity because of the roaring of the sea and the waves, <sup>26</sup>people fainting with fear and with foreboding of what is coming on the world. For the powers of the heavens will be shaken. <sup>27</sup>And then they will see the Son of Man coming in a cloud with power and great glory. <sup>28</sup>Now when these things begin to take place, straighten up and raise your heads, because your redemption is drawing near."



# **Prayer of the Day**

- O Lord, as the end draws near, Your word is fulfilled:
- there are earthquake and famine, warfare, pestilence, and lawlessness.
- Your word is also fulfilled through Your Son Jesus Christ
- Who died and rose again conquering sin, death, and all evil.
- L Help us now to be still and know that You are God
- So that we may know, You God are our refuge, strength and, our fortress.
- Through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord. He lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now,
- and forever. Amen.





**Sermon:** Be Still and Know that I Am God

# **Apostles' Creed**

I believe in God, the Father Almighty, maker of heaven and earth.

And in Jesus Christ, His 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.
The third day He rose again from the dead.
He ascended into heaven
and sits at the right hand of God the Father Almighty.
From thence He will come to judge the living and the dead.

I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy Christian Church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life 

→ everlasting. Amen.

#### **Prayer of the Church**

#### **Offering**

Currently, the offering plate will not be passed. There is a plate in the Narthex for you to place your offering. You may give to God and the work of His Church by mailing them in, but you can also give electronically by using the QR code below.



# **Offering Prayer**

- P Heavenly Father, You have generously blessed us in Christ,
- and made us rich in gifts, spiritual and material.
- P We offer them back to You, O Father.
- We trust you with everything.
- **P** Through Jesus Christ our Lord.
- Amen

# → Holy Communion →

# **To Our Guests Regarding Holy Communion:**

Holy Communion is a gift Christ gives to His Church. In it, He offers His true Body and Blood in and with the bread and wine.

#### It is the gift of Himself!

When received in faith, Holy Communion gives forgiveness, new life & salvation. Those who receive the Lord's Supper at St. James Lutheran Church are baptized Christians, committed in their faith in Christ, who have been instructed in and believe these truths.

(We run classes both for young people and adults – everyone welcome.)

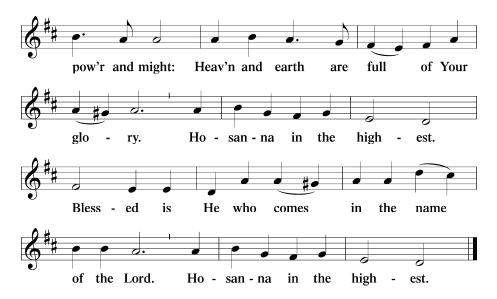
God bless you!

#### **Preface**

- P Hallelujah: for the Lord our God, the Almighty, reigns! [Rev 19:6-9]
- Let us rejoice and exult, for the marriage of the Lamb has come,
- **P** and His bride has made herself ready.
- **©** Blessed are those who are invited to the marriage supper of the Lamb.
- It is good, right, our joy, and our duty that we should at all times and in all places give thanks to You, holy Lord, almighty Father, everlasting God, through Jesus Christ, our Lord, who, having created all things, took on human flesh and was born of the virgin Mary. For our sake He died on the cross and rose from the dead to put an end to death, thus fulfilling Your will and gaining for You a holy people. And He will appear on earth again in great glory. Therefore with angels and archangels and with all the company of heaven we laud and magnify Your glorious name, evermore praising You and saying:

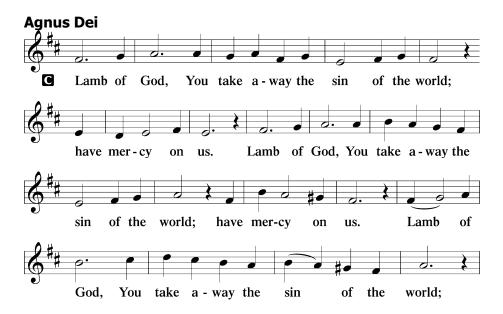
#### Sanctus





# The Lord's Prayer

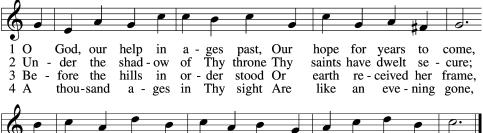
#### **The Words of Our Lord**





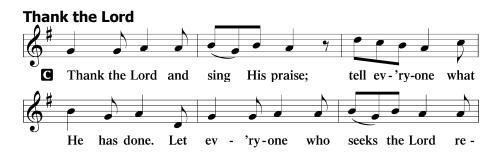
#### **Distribution**

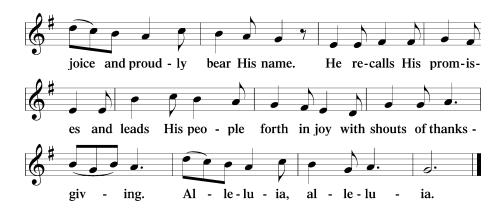




Our shel - ter from the storm - y blast, And our e - ter - nal home: Suf - fi - cient is Thine arm a - lone, And our de - fense is sure. From ev - er - last - ing Thou art God, To end - less years the same. Short as the watch that ends the night Be - fore the ris - ing sun.

- Time, like an ever-rolling stream,
   Soon bears us all away;
   We fly forgotten as a dream
   Dies at the op'ning day.
- O God, our help in ages past,
   Our hope for years to come,
   Be Thou our guard while troubles last
   And our eternal home!





# **Benediction**



P The Lord bless you and keep you.

The Lord make His face shine on you and be gracious to you.

The Lord look upon you with favor and 

→ give you peace.



#### **Announcements**

#### **Closing Hymn: How Great Thou Art**

- O Lord my God, when I in awesome wonder
   Consider all the works Thy hand hath made,
   I see the stars, I hear the mighty thunder,
   Thy pow'r throughout the universe displayed; Refrain
- ref Then sings my soul, my Savior God, to Thee, How great Thou art! How great Thou art! Then sings my soul, my Savior God, to Thee, How great Thou art! How great Thou art!
- When through the woods and forest glades I wander,
   I hear the birds sing sweetly in the trees;
   When I look down from lofty mountain grandeur
   And hear the brook and feel the gentle breeze; Refrain
- 3 But when I think that God, His Son not sparing, Sent Him to die, I scarce can take it in— That on the cross my burden gladly bearing He bled and died to take away my sin; Refrain
- 4 When Christ shall come with shout of acclamation And take me home, what joy shall fill my heart! Then I shall bow in humble adoration And there proclaim: "My God, how great Thou art!" Refrain

Postlude: O Store Gud arr. Kristina Langlois

# **NEW ANNOUNCEMENTS**

**THANKSGIVING EVE SERVICE:** Give Thanks with a Grateful Heart. Please join us for our Thanksgiving Eve Service on Wednesday, November 26<sup>th</sup> at 7pm in the Sanctuary.

**LIVE NATIVITY:** at the St. James Holiday Market is Saturday December 6th from 1pm to 7pm. Please mark your calendars and plan to sign up as either an actor, or a greeter, or a hospitality/drink and cookie person. We need all of you!!! A sign-up sheet has been emailed to the congregation, but can also be found on <u>stilc.com</u> or our facebook page.

**LAF:** Dear Seniors, please sign up for the next LAF (Lunch Among Friends) luncheon to be held on December 10th. This will be a Christmas theme so wear that Christmas sweater! We

will have a carol sing and lots of good cheer so sign up in the Narthex! Cost is \$10 and feel free to bring a friend or neighbor. Pastor Neil and Carol

**ANGEL TREE**: The Angel Tree for Olsens is up. Please pick a resident's name off the tree. Put resident's name, your name, and phone number on the sheet. Please Return by December 14h and put gifts under the table.

**DECORATE OUR CHURCH:** Come Saturday morning, December 6, as we prepare for Sunday's decorating by bringing up boxes and setting up the trees. Time is 9:00am -about an hour. On Sunday, December 7<sup>th</sup> after 10:00 service, we'll begin decorating. Usually, some parents with kids decorate the trees in the Parish Hall while others decorate upstairs in the Sanctuary. Some put the Chrismons (church symbols made by past members) on trees, hang up Christmas sprays on doors and sconces, hang up the garland, or put together the candles for candle lighting services. With everyone's help we finish quickly. Hope you can join in.

**SPECIAL VOTER'S MEETING:** After our services on the weekend of November 22/23, we will hold a special voter's meeting where we will discuss and vote on the matter of screens in the sanctuary. The vote will be by paper ballot, and will be counted after the 10:00 service.

**ADVENT WREATH MAKING:** On Sunday, November 30, shortly after the 10:00 service, each family will be picking up supplies to make their own family Advent Wreath—one Styrofoam ring, 4 purple & 1 pink candle, plus ribbon for a bow, and more. We suggest that you bring a pair or two of outdoor shears to cut the brush for the wreath. Join us in the Parish Hall.

**BLUE CHRISTMAS:** We invite you to a special service for those experiencing grief, loss, and loneliness during this holiday season, Saturday, Dec. 20th from 5:30-6:30 pm. The reality is, Christmastime can amplify feelings of sorrow and pain, while also adding pressure to smother those feelings and just be 'merry'. This service will be more reflective, candle-lit, in a setting where weary hearts can come as they are to God, who came to us in Jesus ("a man of sorrows and acquainted with grief"), to find solace and a sense of hope. We invite you and maybe someone you know to join us. Come as you are, leave as you are.

#### **REMINDERS**

**FOOD PANTRY UPDATE**: In the Narthex, there is a sign-up calendar for assistance in staffing the pantry during the busy November month. We will need some strong arms to assist in handing out Thanksgiving boxes on Saturday, November 22, Monday, November 24th and Tuesday, November 25th from 0930 to 100. Please note that on these 3 volunteer days, you must park at the St. Thomas church parking lot and NOT by the food pantry.

Thank you to all who have given generously time and donations!! Questions? Please call Jeanne Harmer 631-484-5203. "Lord help us to be your hands and feet in our community reflecting the love and compassion of Jesus Christ."

# **Peek at the Week**

#### **SUNDAY November 23**

8:30am Worship (Sanctuary)

10am Family Worship (Sanctuary)

11:30am - 12:15pm King's Kids Choir Rehearsal (Choir Room)

6:30pm-8pm TOF Night High School (Upper Room)

#### **MONDAY November 24**

1pm Piecemakers (Youth Room)
7pm – 9pm MAD Ministry Meeting (Parish Hall)

#### **TUESDAY November 25**

7:30pm Moms Group (Upper Room)

#### **WEDNESDAY November 26**

10am – 12pm Griefshare (Youth Room) 7pm Thanksqiving Eve Service (Sanctuary)

# **THURSDAY November 27**

# **FRIDAY November 28**

8am Morning Prayer (Sanctuary)

#### **SATURDAY November 29**

8am - 10am Bacon, Eggs, and Bible Men's Group (Norway Hall) 5:30pm Worship (Sanctuary)

# **SUNDAY November 30**

8:30am Worship (Sanctuary)

10am Family Worship (Sanctuary) and advent wreath making after Service.

11:30am - 12:15pm King's Kids Choir Rehearsal (Choir Room)