

**ST. JOHN'S LUTHERAN CHURCH**  
**Belleville, PA**



**Twenty-third Sunday after Pentecost**  
**November 8, 2020**

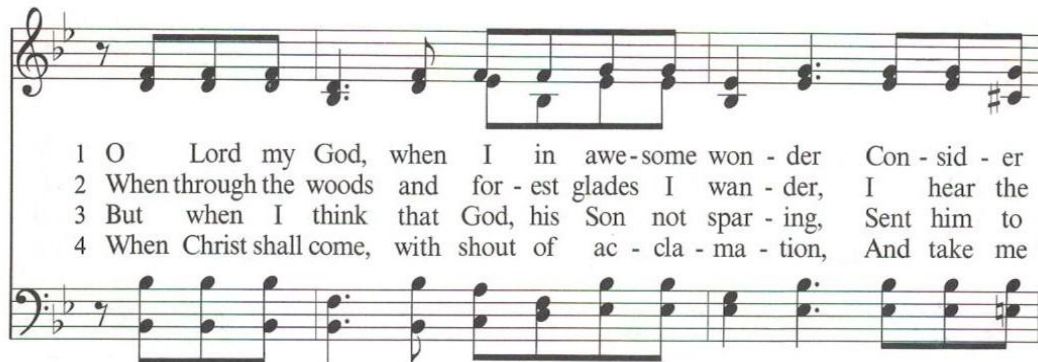
**PRELUDE**

**WELCOME and ANNOUNCEMENTS**

**\*HYMN ~ verses 1 and 3**

532

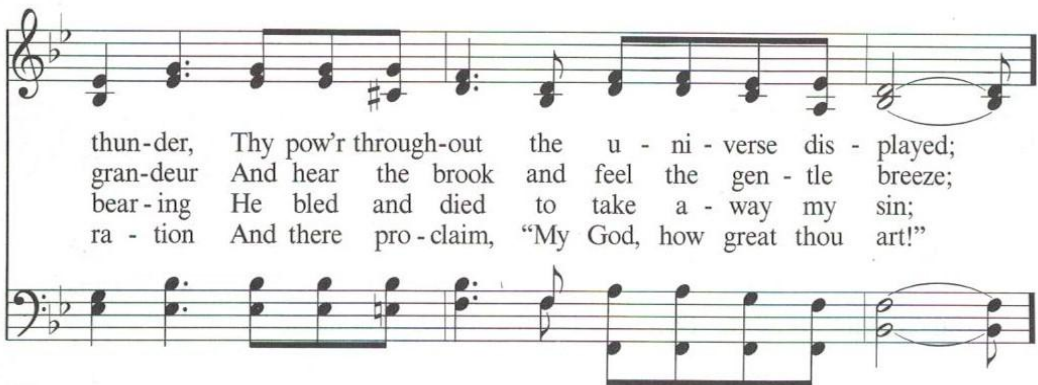
**How Great Thou Art**



1 O Lord my God, when I in awe-some won - der Con - sid - er  
2 When through the woods and for - est glades I wan - der, I hear the  
3 But when I think that God, his Son not spar - ing, Sent him to  
4 When Christ shall come, with shout of ac - cla - ma - tion, And take me



all the\*worlds thy hand hath made, I see the stars, I hear the \*roll - ing  
birds singsweet - ly in the trees; When I look down from loft - y moun - tain  
die, I scarce can take it in, That on the cross my bur - den glad - ly  
home, what joy shall fill my heart! Then I shall bow in hum - ble ad - o -



thun - der, Thy pow'r through - out the u - ni - verse dis - played;  
gran - deur And hear the brook and feel the gen - tle breeze;  
bear - ing He bled and died to take a - way my sin;  
ra - tion And there pro - claim, "My God, how great thou art!"



*Refrain*  
Then sings my soul, my Sav - ior God, to thee, How great thou

**\*GREETING**

P The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

P You are the treasured people of the LORD,

**C a people holy to the LORD our God.**

P Keep the words of the LORD in your heart; teach them to your children.

**C Talk about them when you are at home and when you are away, when you lie down and when you rise.**

P One does not live by bread alone,

**C but by every word that comes from the mouth of the LORD.**

**\*CONFESSION**

P Blessed be the holy Trinity, ☩ one God, in whose image we are made, who claims us and calls us beloved. Amen.

We are God's people, sheep of the Spirit's fold, lambs of Christ's flock, sinners of God's redeeming. Let us come before God, who already knows our hearts and welcomes our humility.

*Silence is kept for reflection*

**C Holy One, we confess that we are not awake for you. We are not faithful in using your gifts. We forget the least of our siblings. We do not see your beautiful image in one another. We are infected by sin that divides your beloved community. Open our hearts to your coming, open our eyes to see you in our neighbor, open our hands to serve your creation. Amen.**

P Beloved, we are God's children, and Jesus, our Beloved, opens the door to us. Through ☩ Jesus you are forgiven, by Jesus you are welcome, in Jesus you are called to rejoice! Let us live in the promises prepared for us from the foundation of the world. Amen

**\*SCRIPTURE SONG**



**☞ Sal-va-tion be-longs to our God and to Christ the Lamb for-ev-er and ev - er.**



**I Great and won-der-ful are your deeds, O God of the u-ni-verse;**



**just and true are your ways, O Rul - er of all the na-tions.**



**Who can fail to hon-or you, Lord, and sing the glo-ry of your name?**



**☞ Sal-va-tion be-longs to our God and to Christ the Lamb for-ev-er and ev - er.**



**II For you a - lone are the Ho - ly One. All**



**na - tions will draw near and wor - ship be - fore you,**



**for your just and ho - ly works have been re - vealed.**



**☞ Sal-va-tion be-longs to our God and to Christ the Lamb for-ev-er and ev - er.**

**\*PRAYER OF THE DAY ~ in unison**      *Prayers and Lessons are found in Celebrate*

P The Lord be with you.    C **And also with you.**

P Let us pray...

**LESSONS**

\*First Lesson ~ A reading from Amos 5:18-24

*after the reading*

R The word of the Lord.    C **Thanks be to God.**

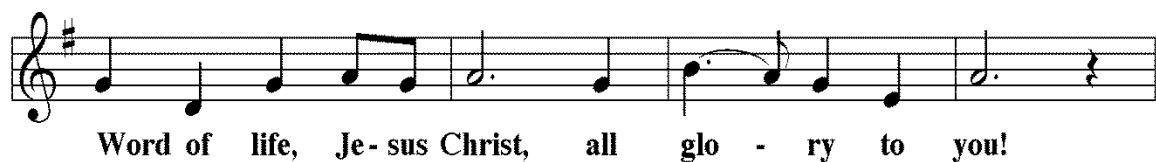
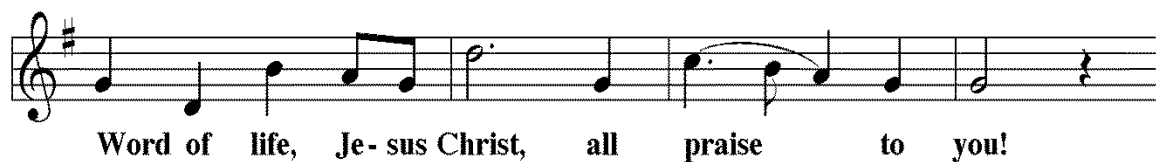
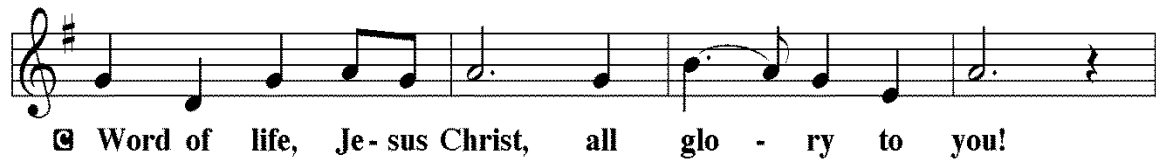
\*Psalm 70 ~ *with response*

\*Second Lesson ~ A reading from 1 Thessalonians 4:13-18

*after the reading*

R The word of the Lord.    C **Thanks be to God.**

**\*GOSPEL ACCLAMATION**



**\*GOSPEL READING**

P The Holy Gospel according to Matthew, the 25<sup>th</sup> chapter.

C **Glory to you, O Lord.**

*After the reading*

P The Gospel of the Lord.

C **Praise to you, O Christ.**



MESSAGE ~ *Justice or Just Us?*

\*HYMN ~ *verses 1 and 2*

31

Wake, Awake, for Night Is Flying

1 Wake, a - wake, for night is fly - ing, The watch-men  
2 Zi - on hears the watch-men sing - ing, And in her  
3 Now let all the heav'ns a - dore you, And saints and

on the heights are cry - ing; A - wake, Je - ru - sa - lem, at last.  
heart new joy is spring - ing. She wakes, she ris - es from her gloom,  
an - gels sing be - fore you. The harps and cym-bals all u - nite.

Mid-night hears the wel - come voic - es, And at the  
For her Lord comes down all - glo - rious, The strong in  
Of one pearl each shin - ing por - tal, Where, dwell - ing

thrill - ing cry re - joic - es: "Come forth, you maid - ens! Night is past.  
grace, in truth vic - to - rious. Her star is ris'n; her light is come.  
with the choir im - mor - tal, We gath - er round your daz - zling light.

*Continued on next page*

The bride-groom comes! A - wake; Your lamps with glad - ness take!"  
 Oh, come, you Bless - ed One, Lord Je - sus, God's own Son.  
 No eye has seen, no ear Has yet been trained to hear.

Al - le - lu - ia! Pre - pare your-selves to meet the  
 Sing ho - san - na! We go un - til the halls we  
 What joy is ours! Cre - scen - dos rise; your halls re -

Lord, Whose light has stirred the wait - ing guard.  
 view Where you have bid us dine with you.  
 sound; Ho - san - nas blend in cos - mic sound.

**\*THE PEACE**

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

**OFFERING** (please leave your gifts in one of the offering plates **at the end of the front and back pews** (Mechanic St. side) on your way out)

**\*OFFERTORY PRAYER**

P Let us pray.

P God, our Creator,

C you open wide your hand and satisfy the desire of every living creature.

With these gifts we bless you for your tender nurture and care.

Help us to delight in your will and walk in your ways,  
 through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen

**\*PRAYERS of the PEOPLE ~ Found in Celebrate**

P Longing for Christ's reign to come among us, we pray for the outpouring of  
 God's power on the church, the world, and all in need.

**\*LORD's PRAYER**

P Let us pray with confidence in the words our Savior gave us:

C **Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your name, your kingdom come, your will be done, on earth as in heaven. Give us today our daily bread. Forgive us our sins as we forgive those who sin against us. Save us from the time of trial and deliver us from evil. For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours, now and forever. Amen**

**\*THE BLESSING**

P Almighty God, Father, + Son, and Holy Spirit, bless you now and forever.

C **Amen**



# Lord, Dismiss Us with Your Blessing

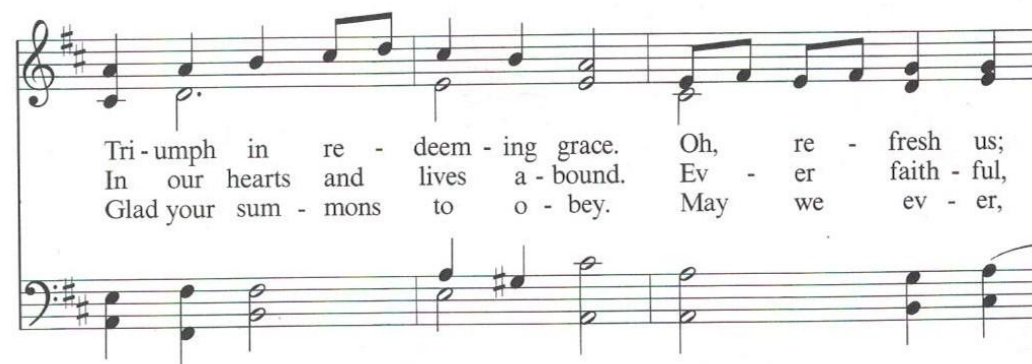
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1 Lord, dis - miss us with your bless - ing, Fill our hearts with  
 2 Thanks we give and ad - o - ra - tion For your Gos - pel's  
 3 Sav - ior, when your love shall call us From our strug - gling



joy and peace; Let us each, your love pos - sess - ing,  
 joy - ful sound. May the fruits of your sal - va - tion  
 pil - grim way, Let no fear of death ap - pall us,



Tri - umph in re - deem - ing grace. Oh, re - fresh us;  
 In our hearts and lives a - bound. Ev - er faith - ful,  
 Glad your sum - mons to o - bey. May we ev - er,



oh, re - fresh us, Trav - 'ling through this wil - der - ness.  
 ev - er faith - ful To your truth may we be found.  
 may we ev - er Reign with you in end - less day.

Text: attr. John Fawcett, 1740-1817, sts. 1-2; Godfrey Thring, 1823-1903, st. 3, alt.  
 Tune: Sicilian, 18th cent.

SICILIAN MARINERS  
 87 87 87

**\*DISMISSAL**

P Go in Peace. Serve the Lord

**R Thanks be to God**

**\*POSTLUDE** ~ *please exit the church using the aisle and staircase on the left  
(Mechanic St. side, remembering to keep a safe distance from others)*

**Pastor:** Reverend Ela J. Robertson Phone 740-338-7123

**Organist:** Seulki Susie Yoo

**Church Office:** 935-2032 **Email us at** [stjohnco@embarqmail.com](mailto:stjohnco@embarqmail.com)

**St. John's Christian Day Care:** 935-2959

***Our Mission Statement***

*We, the members of St. John's congregation, promise to share  
the good news of Jesus Christ, to worship and to love one another  
in our homes, church, community and the world.*

***Our Vision Statement***

*To be people who are welcoming and encourage God's love in our community  
through our prayer, devotion, benevolence and deeds.*

**Today**

**Greeter:** Edna Chester; **Lay Reader:** John Chester

**Next Sunday, November 15**

**Greeters:** Jed and Alice Smith; **Lay Reader:** Jami Zook

The Altar Flowers in St. John's are given to the Glory of God  
by Deb French in loving memory of Carrie Knarr and Charlie French  
and in honor of her son and grandchildren.

**Notes from the Pastor:**

**UPCOMING SERVICES**

Sunday, November 22 ~ Christ the King

Sunday, November 29 ~ First Advent

**MEETINGS**

Thursday, November 12 ~ 6:30pm Council meeting

Monday, November 16 ~ 6:30pm Property Committee meeting

This year the ELCA celebrates 50 years of the ordination of women in the Lutheran church. It also marks the 30th anniversary of Rosalie Smith's ordination in the ELCA. Her anniversary celebration has, with Covid, been postponed to a similar date next year.

We are just three weeks from the beginning of Advent. If anyone would like to submit a short reflection for our Advent calendar book, please let Pastor Ela or Joy Byler know, there are still some dates available at West Kish we can give to you. This is a beautiful way particularly while we are more isolated to link our home life with our life in the church.

## Announcements

Advent begins on Sunday, November 29. If you signed up to write a meditation, **please be sure and return it by this Friday, November 15.**

The Shingler Memorial service is being held Saturday at 11:00am with family visitation beginning at 9:30am. Sally was a sister to Lucy Magda and Nancy Aumiller.

The Gift Show is scheduled to be held on Friday, November 26 and Saturday, November 27. Live wreaths are once again being sold; and include a hand-crafted bow; please notate your choice of color. You can pre-order by signing up in the narthex or contacting the church office (2032). All orders must be picked up at the gift show; payment can also be made at that time. More information about the show is being included in the newsletter going out next week.

We are looking for donations of **homemade soup, cookies, pies, fudge, cakes, etc.** **All food will be packaged for take-out.** If you would be willing to help in this way, please sign-up in the narthex or contact the church office.

In the narthex, are sign-up sheets for anyone who would like to place Altar flowers next year. We will once again refrain from using them during Lent beginning Sunday, February 21<sup>st</sup> through Palm Sunday, March 28th.

Please remember to notate whether you would like to keep the flowers or have them delivered.

January thru November 5  
Last week's attendance ~ 27    Offering ~ \$2,872.00

St. John's ~ YTD Income \$ 498,106.63    Expense \$ 208,307.18  
Net Income \$ 289,799.45

The income includes the bequest of \$290,421.27 received from the Gladys Mahady Estate which was deposited to non-budget income for the time being.

The expense includes the final payment for the parking lot paving \$22,990.00 and \$11,087.96 for the boiler repair.

Daycare ~ YTD Income \$ 245,209.14    Expense \$ 194,708.02  
Net Income \$ 50,501.12