

**St. John's Lutheran Church  
Belleville, PA**

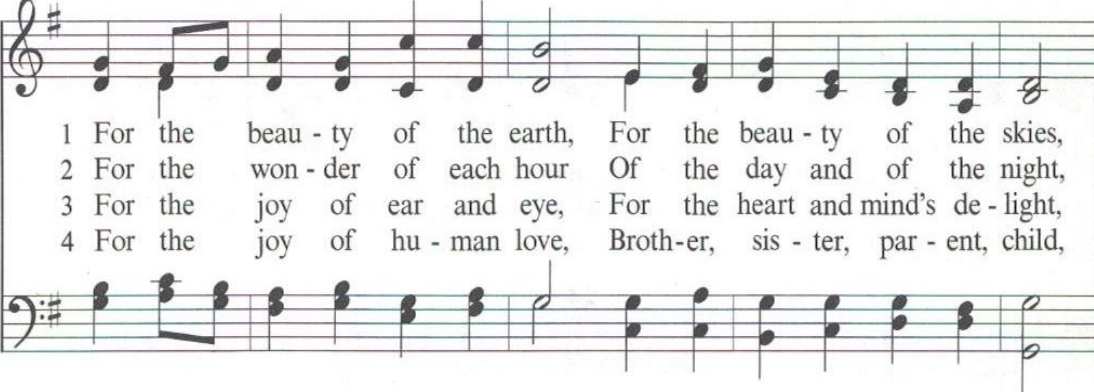


**Twentieth Sunday after Pentecost  
October 15, 2023**

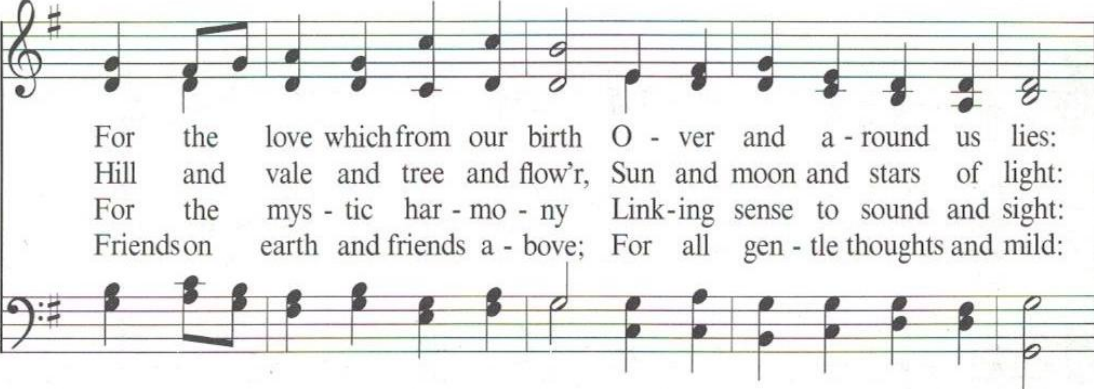
**PRELUDE  
WELCOME  
ANNOUNCEMENTS**

**\*HYMN ~ For the Beauty of the Earth**

LBW # 561

**For the Beauty of the Earth****561**


1 For the beau - ty of the earth, For the beau - ty of the skies,  
 2 For the won - der of each hour Of the day and of the night,  
 3 For the joy of ear and eye, For the heart and mind's de - light,  
 4 For the joy of hu - man love, Broth - er, sis - ter, par - ent, child,



For the love which from our birth O - ver and a - round us lies:  
 Hill and vale and tree and flow'r, Sun and moon and stars of light:  
 For the mys - tic har - mo - ny Link - ing sense to sound and sight:  
 Friends on earth and friends a - bove; For all gen - tle thoughts and mild:



*Refrain*  
 Christ, our Lord, to you we raise This our sac - ri - fice of praise.

5 For yourself, best gift divine  
 To the world so freely giv'n;

Agent of God's grand design,  
 Peace on earth and joy in heav'n: *Refrain*

**\*CONFESSION and FORGIVENESS**

P In the name of the Father, and of the + Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

C **Amen**

P Almighty God, to whom all hearts are open, all desires known, and from whom no secrets are hid: Cleanse the thoughts of our hearts by the inspiration of your Holy Spirit, that we may perfectly love you and worthily magnify your holy name, through Jesus Christ our Lord.

C **Amen**

P If we say we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us. But if we confess our sins, God who is faithful and just will forgive our sins and cleanse us from all unrighteousness.

*Silence for reflection and self-examination.*

P Most merciful God,

C **we confess that we are in bondage to sin and cannot free ourselves. We have sinned against you in thought, word, and deed, by what we have done and by what we have left undone. We have not loved you with our whole heart; we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. For the sake of your Son, Jesus Christ, have mercy on us. Forgive us, renew us, and lead us, so that we may delight in your will and walk in your ways, to the glory of your holy name. Amen**

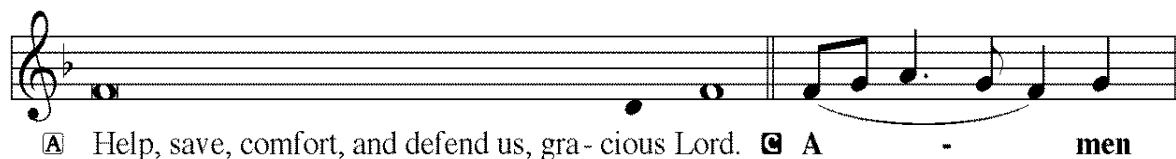
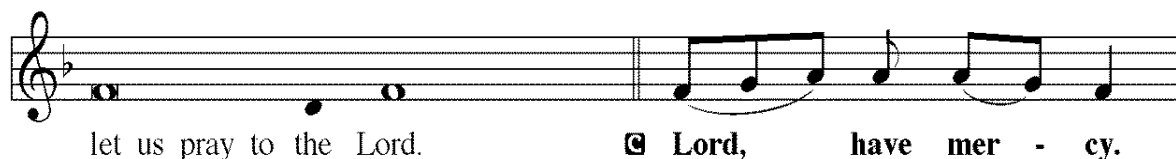
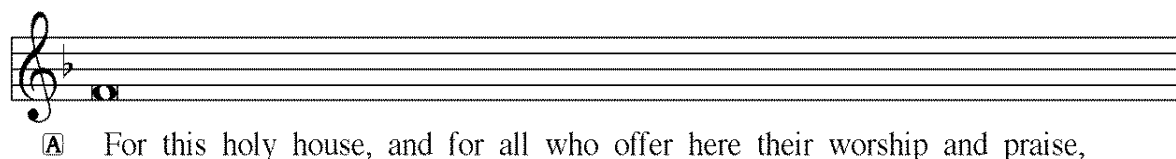
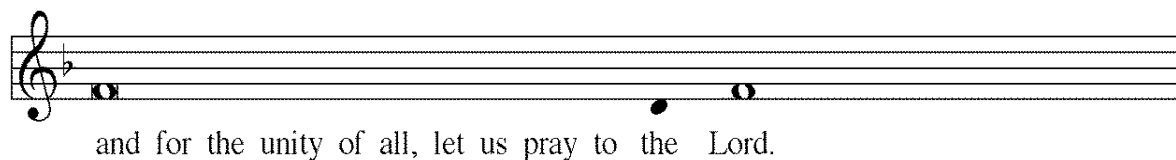
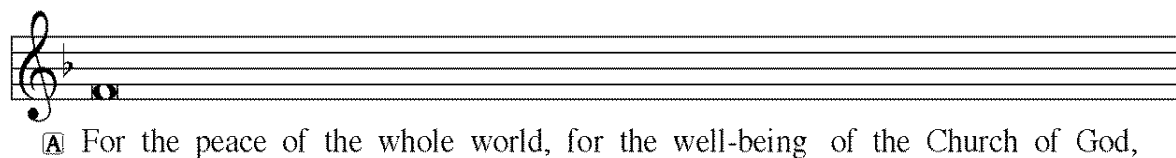
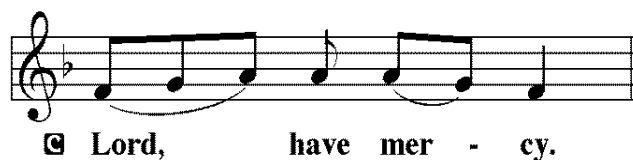
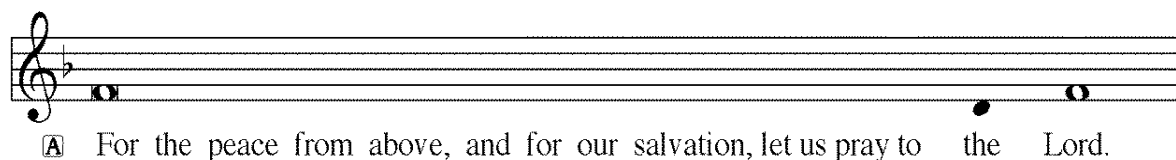
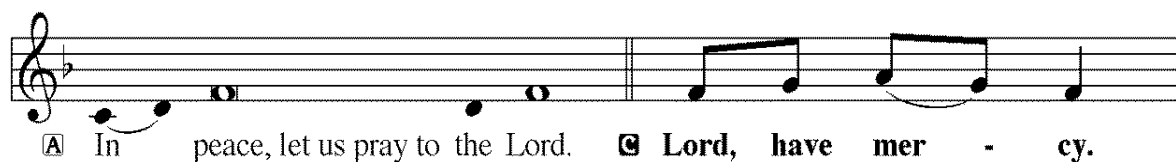
P In the mercy of almighty God, Jesus Christ was given to die for you, and for his sake, God forgives you all your sins. To those who believe in Jesus Christ he gives the power to become the children of God and bestows on them the Holy Spirit.

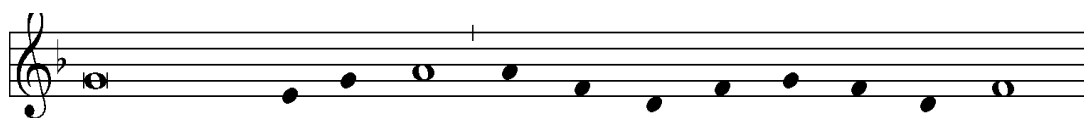
C **Amen**

**\*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.**

**\*KYRIE**

**\*HYMN of PRAISE**

**A** Glory to God in the highest, and peace to his peo - ple on earth.



**B** Lord God, heav - en - ly king, al - might - y God and Fa - ther:



We wor - ship you, we give you thanks, we praise you for your glo - ry.



Lord Je - sus Christ, on - ly Son of the Fa - ther, Lord God, Lamb of God:



You take a - way the sin of the world; have mer - cy on us.



You are seat - ed at the right hand of the Fa - ther; re - ceive our prayer.



For you a - lone are the Ho - ly One, you a - lone are the Lord,



you a - lone are the Most High, Je - sus Christ, with the Ho - ly Spir - it,



in the glo - ry of God the Fa - ther. A - men

**\*PRAYER of the DAY ~ (in unison)**

Musical notation for the first part of the hymn. It starts with a treble clef and a key signature of one flat (B-flat). The melody consists of a half note G4, followed by a whole note F4, and then a half note E4. The lyrics 'The Lord be with you.' are written below the staff.

**P** The Lord be with you.

Musical notation for the second part of the hymn. It continues with a half note D4, followed by a half note C4, and then a half note B3. The lyrics 'And also with you.' are written below the staff.

**C** And al - so with you.

P Let us pray...

**Lord of the feast, you have prepared a table before all peoples and poured out your life with abundance. Call us again to your banquet. Strengthen us by what is honorable, just, and pure, and transform us into a people of righteousness and peace, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.**

## LESSONS

## First Lesson ~ A reading from Isaiah 25:1-9

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

\*Psalm 23 ~ *with response*

\*Second Lesson ~ A reading from Philippians 4:1-9  
*after the reading*

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

**\*GOSPEL ACCLAMATION**

Al - le - lu - ia. Lord, to whom shall we go? You have the

words of e - ter - nal life. Al - le - lu - ia. Al - le - lu - ia.

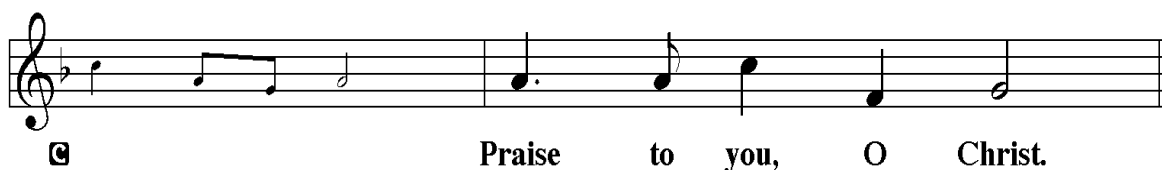
\*Gospel Reading ~ P The Holy Gospel according to Matthew the 22<sup>nd</sup> chapter:

Glo - ry to you, O Lord.



*After the reading*

P The Gospel of the Lord



**MESSAGE** ~ *Rufina Kanagy*

**\*HYMN** ~ *Have No Fear, Little Flock*

LBW # 476

476 Have No Fear, Little Flock

Musical notation for the hymn "Have No Fear, Little Flock" in G major, 4/4 time. The notation is arranged in three systems, each with a treble and bass staff. The lyrics are written between the staves. The first system contains the first four lines of the hymn. The second system contains the next four lines. The third system contains the final four lines. The melody is written on the treble staff, and the bass staff provides a simple harmonic accompaniment.

1 Have no fear, lit - tle flock; Have no fear, lit - tle  
 2 Have good cheer, lit - tle flock; Have good cheer, lit - tle  
 3 Praise the Lord high a - bove; Praise the Lord high a -  
 4 Thank - ful hearts raise to God; Thank - ful hearts raise to

flock, For the Fa - ther has cho - sen To  
 flock, For the Fa - ther will keep you In  
 bove, For he stoops down to heal you, Up -  
 God, For he stays close be - side you, In

give you the King - dom; Have no fear, lit - tle flock!  
 his love for - ev - er; Have good cheer, lit - tle flock!  
 lift and re - store you; Praise the Lord high a - bove!  
 all things works with you; Thank - ful hearts raise to God!

**\*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**

**\*PRAYERS of the PEOPLE ~ *See Celebrate***

**P** Trusting in the transformative power of God's loving Spirit, let us pray for the church, the world, and all in need.

*A brief silence.*

**\*PEACE**

**P** The peace of the Lord be with you always.

**C** And also with you.

**OFFERING ~** you may leave your gifts in one of the offering plates at the end of the front and back pews.



# **\*OFFERTORY**



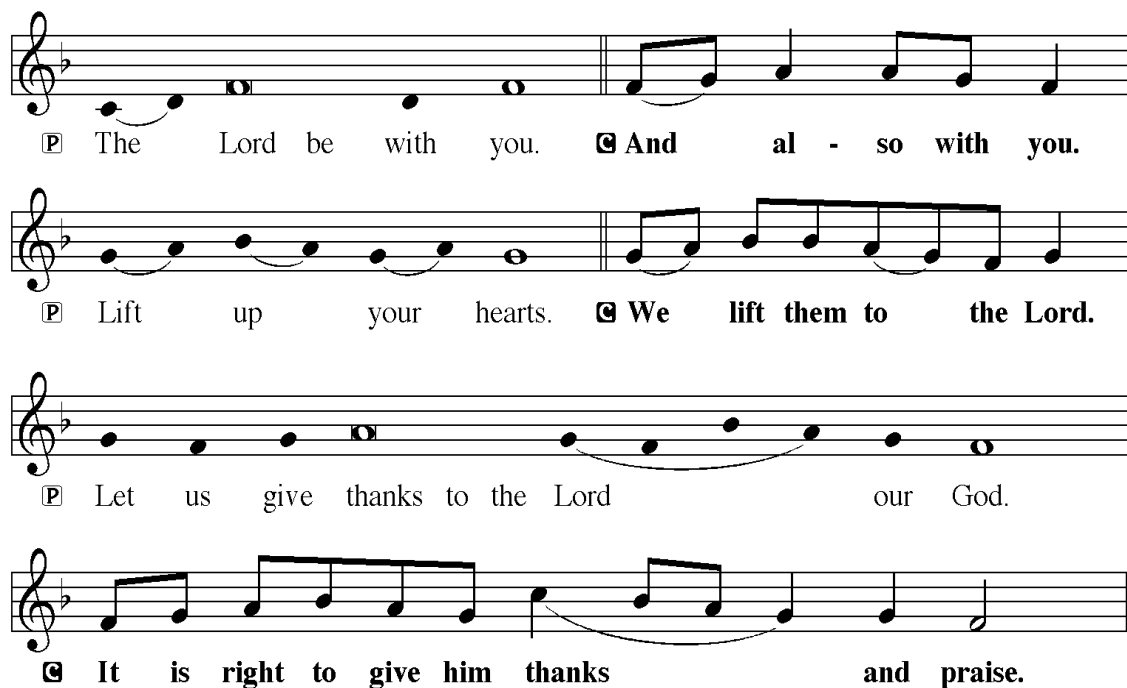
Let the vine - yards be fruit - ful, Lord, and fill to the brim our  
cup of bless - ing. Gath - er a har - vest from the  
seeds that were sown, that we may be fed with the bread of life.  
Gath - er the hopes and the dreams of all; u - nite them with the  
prayers we of - fer now. Grace our ta - ble with your  
pres - ence, and give us a fore - taste of the feast to come.

## **\*OFFERTORY PRAYER**

P Let us pray. Merciful Father,

C we offer with joy and thanksgiving what you have first given  
us--ourselves, our time, and our possessions, signs of your  
gracious love. Receive them for the sake of him who offered  
himself for us, Jesus Christ our Lord.

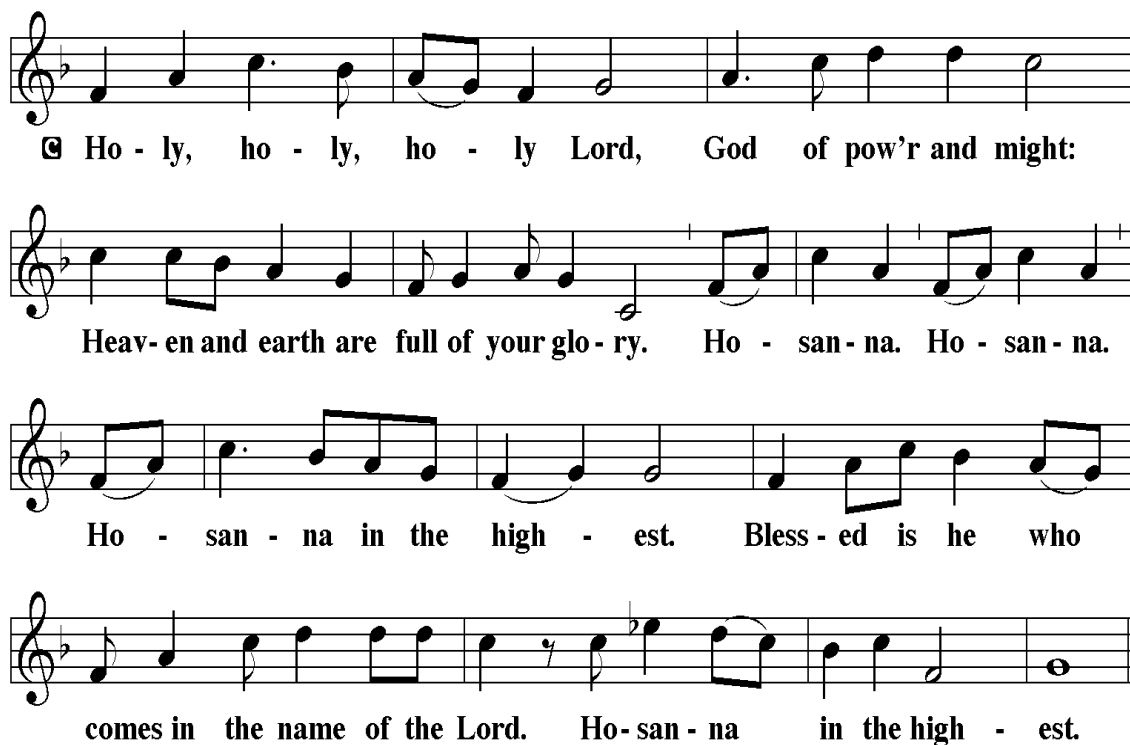
Amen

**\*GREAT THANKSGIVING**


P The Lord be with you. **Q** And al - so with you.  
 P Lift up your hearts. **Q** We lift them to the Lord.  
 P Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.  
**Q** It is right to give him thanks and praise.

**\*PREFACE**

P It is indeed right and salutary that we should at all times and in all places offer thanks and praise to you O Lord Holy Father through Christ our Lord, 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 the Church on earth and the hosts of heaven, we praise Your name and join their unending hymn...



**Q** Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow'r and might:  
 Heav - en and earth are full of your glo - ry. Ho - san - na. Ho - san - na.  
 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.

P In the night in which he was betrayed, our Lord Jesus took bread, and gave thanks; 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, shed for you and for all people for the forgiveness of sin.  
Do this for the remembrance of me.

### **The Lord's Prayer**

P Let us pray as Jesus taught us:  
**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, and the power, and the glory, forever and ever. Amen**

### **Invitation to Communion:**

P Partake of the banquet, for all is now ready, taste and see that the Lord is good.  
P The Bread of Life: the body of Christ, given for you;  
**C Amen.**  
P The Cup of the Covenant: the blood of Christ, shed for you.  
**C Amen.**

### *After Communion*

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

**\*POST COMMUNION CANTICLE**



**C** Thank the Lord and sing his praise; tell ev-'ry-one what he has done.



Let all who seek the Lord re - joice and proud-ly bear his name.



He re - calls his prom - is - es and leads his peo - ple forth in joy with



shouts of thanks - giv - ing. Al - le - lu - ia. Al - le - lu - ia.

**P** Let us pray.

We give you thanks, almighty God, that you refresh us through the healing power of this gift of life; and we pray that in your mercy you would strengthen us, through this gift, in faith toward you and in fervent love toward one another; for the sake of Jesus Christ our Lord.

**C** Amen

**\*THE BLESSING**

**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.

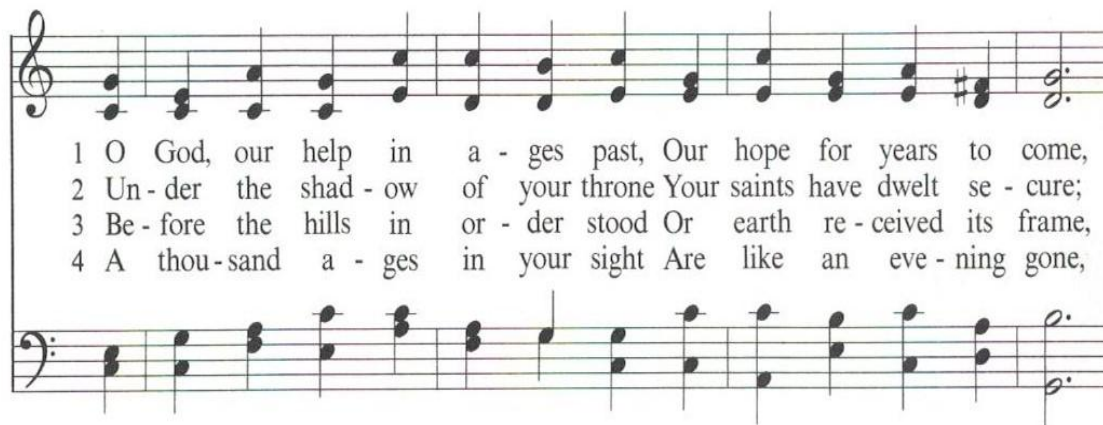
**C** Amen

**\*HYMN ~ O God, Our Help in Ages Past**

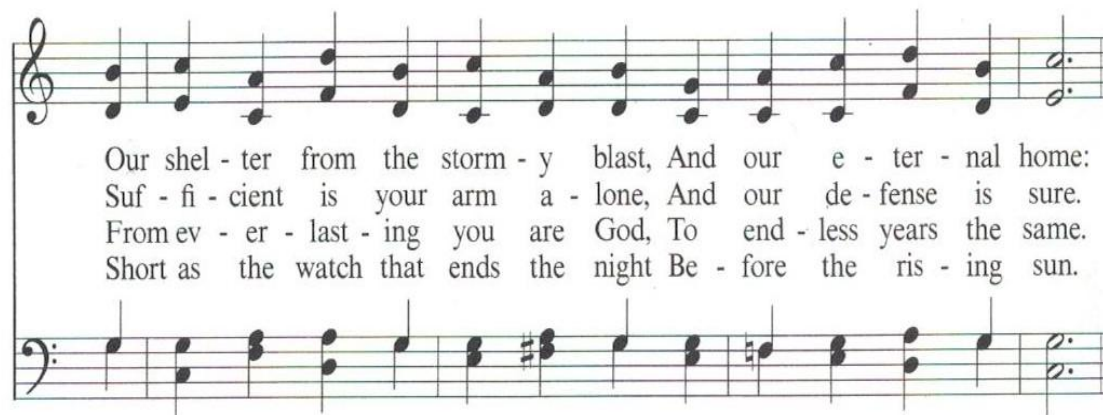
LBW # 320

# O God, Our Help in Ages Past

320



1 O God, our help in a - ges past, Our hope for years to come,  
 2 Un - der the shad - ow of your throne Your saints have dwelt se - cure;  
 3 Be - fore the hills in or - der stood Or earth re - ceived its frame,  
 4 A thou - sand a - ges in your sight Are like an eve - ning gone,



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

5 Time, like an ever-rolling stream,  
 Soon bears us all away;  
 We fly forgotten, as a dream  
 Dies at the op'ning day.

6 O God, our help in ages past,  
 Our hope for years to come,  
 Still be our guard while troubles last  
 And our eternal home!

**\*DISMISSAL**

**P** Go in Peace. Serve the Lord

**R** Thanks be to God

**POSTLUDE**

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

**Music Ministry:** Seulki Susie Yoo

**Today**

**Greeter:** Erica Hargenrader; **Lay Reader:** Erica Hargenrader

**Altar Care:** Carol Fultz; **Sound:** Jay Byler

**Next Sunday, October 22**

**Greeter:** Nancy Penepacker; **Lay Reader:** Erica Hargenrader

**Altar Care:** Carol Fultz; **Sound:** Jay Byler

**Church Office:** 935-2032; **Email us at [secretary@stjohnsbelleville.org](mailto:secretary@stjohnsbelleville.org)**

**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.*

The Altar Flowers are given to the Glory of God by  
Mike and Michele Harshbarger in memory of  
her parents, Michael and Ann Sabol.

Please remember in prayer ~ Erica Hargenrader, Fred Miller and Buck Metz  
(Greenwood Village for rehab), Sarah Robertson (neck surgery, Pastor's niece),  
Miriam Williamson, Anne Peachey, Desa Keiser, Elliana Byler, Kyung Sun Yim,  
Bob Treaster, Samantha Smith, members ~ Joyce Stuck (Greenwood Village),  
Betty Harmon (Celebration Villa) and Don Wolfe (VVH).

**ANNOUNCEMENTS**

Thank you to Joe Kanagy for leading our worship this morning, to his wife,  
Rufina for providing the message, and Pastor Rosalie for assisting with Holy  
Communion.

There will be Property committee meeting tomorrow at 6:30pm in the blue  
room. All committee members are urged to attend.

The Social Ministry committee is hosting a reception in the blue room for  
Pastor Ela following the service next Sunday.



As a result of the vote taken at last week's congregational meeting, effective Sunday, November 5, St. John's worship will begin at 9:00am. A letter informing members of this change along with other information was mailed out last Thursday. If you did not receive one, please contact the church office.

There are only four dates remaining to fill St. John's portion of the Advent devotional. Please consider writing a meditation. A sign-up sheet along with scripture readings can be found in the narthex.

January 1 thru October 11, 2023

Last week's attendance ~ 23      Offering ~ \$1,540.00

St. John's ~ Income \$ 191,038.02      Expense \$ 198,490.17

\*Net Income \$ -7,452.15

\*As authorized by the 2023 budget, \$5,000.00 was transferred from the money market account to cover expenses.

Daycare ~ Income \$ 244,282.32      Expense \$ 263,020.78

\*Net Income \$ -18,738.46

\* Due to the budget impasse this summer, St. John's Pre-K Counts preschool program along with schools and colleges across PA, have not received their funding from the state. The daycare has been paying the Pre-K salaries and other expenses. Last Monday, we were notified that funding will be released on the 23<sup>rd</sup> and checks distributed on the 24<sup>th</sup>. The net income figure will decrease once funding has been received.