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*“<sup>5</sup>When some were speaking about the temple, how it was adorned with beautiful stones and gifts dedicated to God, [Jesus] said, <sup>6</sup>“As for these things that you see, the days will come when not one stone will be left upon another; all will be thrown down.”*

*Luke 21: 5-6*

**St. John Evangelical Lutheran Church**  
**Twenty-sixth Sunday after Pentecost – November 13, 2016**

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Rev. Robert Zimmerman, Pastor

Jacob Gordon, Director of Music Ministries

*We welcome you to St. John Lutheran Church. We are delighted to have you worship with us this morning. Should you have no permanent church-home in this community, why not consider making this one your own? Please sign the guest book as you leave worship today. You are most welcome here at St. John! Most elements of our service can be found in the bulletin, everything else is in the hymnal. Page refers to the numbered pages towards the front of the hymnal, hymns are bold and towards the back. Please rise when there is an \*, congregational responses are in **bold**, and underlined elements of the service are found in the hymnal.*

### **HOLY COMMUNION**

**Twenty-sixth Sunday after Pentecost – November 13, 2016**

*The end is near. There is no doubt about it. The warnings are dire. The tone of today's texts is ominous. But the baptized know how to live in the "meantimes." The baptized are strengthened for the living of these days in word and sacrament. The baptized rally around the invitation of the apostle: "Brothers and sisters, do not be weary in doing what is right."*

**PRELUDE:** *By Gracious Powers* – Edwin T. Childs

### **ANNOUNCEMENTS**

## **GATHERING**

*The Holy Spirit calls us together as the people of God.*

### **\*CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS**

In the name of God the Father of glory;  
in the name of God the + Son, our Redeemer;  
in the name of God the holy and life-giving Spirit.

**Amen.**

The Sun of righteousness shall rise with shining beams of healing.  
Let us gather under the wings of God's mercy.

Gracious God,

**we acknowledge that we are sinners  
and we confess our sins—  
those known to us that burden our hearts,  
and those unknown to us but seen by you.  
We know that before you nothing remains hidden,  
and in you everything is revealed.  
Free us from the slavery of sin;  
liberate us from the bondage of guilt;  
and work in us that which is pleasing in your sight;  
for the sake of Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.**

With a heart full of mercy and compassion,  
God saves us and + forgives us all our sins.  
Christ, the dawn from on high, shines upon us  
and by the light of the Holy Spirit  
guides our feet into the way of peace.

**Amen.**

**\*GATHERING SONG #632: O God Our Help in Ages Past**

### **\*GREETING**

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

## \*GLORY TO GOD

Assisting minister



Glory to God in the highest, and peace to God's peo - ple on earth.

All



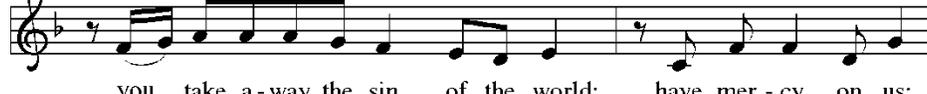
Lord God, heav - en - ly King, al - might - y God and Fa - ther,



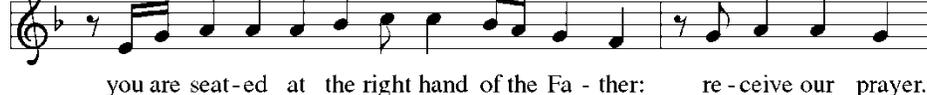
we wor - ship you, we give you thanks, we praise you for your glo - ry.



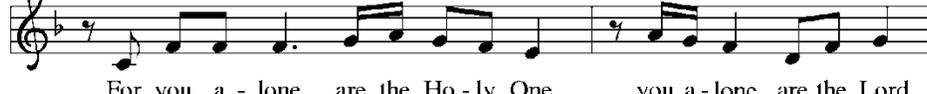
Lord Je - sus Christ, on - ly Son of the Fa - ther, Lord God, Lamb of God,



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

Let us pray.

**O God, the protector of all who trust in you,  
without you nothing is strong, nothing is holy.**

**Embrace us with your mercy, that with you as our ruler and guide,  
we may live through what is temporary without losing what is eternal,  
through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.**

**Amen.**

## WORD

*God speaks to us in scripture reading, preaching, and song.*

### **FIRST READING: Malachi 4:1-2a**

*Malachi, whose name means “my messenger,” warns that the day of the Lord is coming. On that day, the evil will be destroyed like stubble in a fire, but the “sun of righteousness” will shine on those who fear God.*

<sup>1</sup>See, the day is coming, burning like an oven, when all the arrogant and all evildoers will be stubble; the day that comes shall burn them up, says the LORD of hosts, so that it will leave them neither root nor branch. <sup>2a</sup>But for you who revere my name the sun of righteousness shall rise, with healing in its wings.

The word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

### **PSALM 98 – HYMN #267: Joy to the World**

### **SECOND READING: 2 Thessalonians 3:6-13**

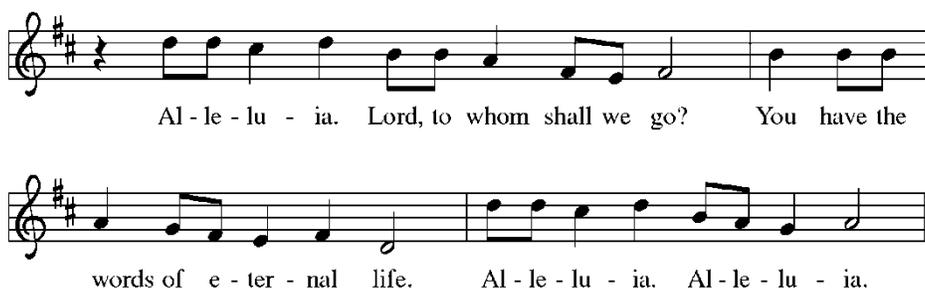
*Some members of the Thessalonian community, because of their belief in the nearness of Christ’s return, had ceased to work, living off the generosity of other members of the community. Paul warns them bluntly that if they want to eat, they need to work.*

<sup>6</sup>Now we command you, beloved, in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ, to keep away from believers who are living in idleness and not according to the tradition that they received from us. <sup>7</sup>For you yourselves know how you ought to imitate us; we were not idle when we were with you, <sup>8</sup>and we did not eat anyone’s bread without paying for it; but with toil and labor we worked night and day, so that we might not burden any of you. <sup>9</sup>This was not because we do not have that right, but in order to give you an example to imitate. <sup>10</sup>For even when we were with you, we gave you this command: Anyone unwilling to work should not eat. <sup>11</sup>For we hear that some of you are living in idleness, mere busybodies, not doing any work. <sup>12</sup>Now such persons we command and exhort in the Lord Jesus Christ to do their work quietly and to earn their own living. <sup>13</sup>Brothers and sisters, do not be weary in doing what is right.

The word of the Lord.

**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: Luke 21:5-19**

*As history moves toward God’s fulfillment there will be frightening signs and events. Before the end, believers will draw strength from their relationship to God and shall be given the words they need to testify and to endure without fear.*

The holy gospel according to Luke.

**Glory to you, O Lord.**

<sup>5</sup>When some were speaking about the temple, how it was adorned with beautiful stones and gifts dedicated to God, [Jesus] said, <sup>6</sup>“As for these things that you see, the days will come when not one stone will be left upon another; all will be thrown down.”

<sup>7</sup>They asked him, “Teacher, when will this be, and what will be the sign that this is about to take place?” <sup>8</sup>And he said, “Beware that you are not led astray; for many will come in my name and say, ‘I am he!’ and, ‘The time is near!’ Do not go after them.

<sup>9</sup>“When you hear of wars and insurrections, do not be terrified; for these things must take place first, but the end will not follow immediately.” <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 plagues; and there will be dreadful portents and great signs from heaven.

<sup>12</sup>“But before all this occurs, they will arrest you and persecute you; they will hand you over to synagogues and prisons, and you will be brought before kings and governors because of my name. <sup>13</sup>This will give you an opportunity to testify. <sup>14</sup>So make up your minds not to prepare your defense in advance; <sup>15</sup>for I will give you words and a wisdom that none of your opponents will be able to withstand or contradict. <sup>16</sup>You will be betrayed even by parents and brothers, by relatives and friends; and they will put some of you to death. <sup>17</sup>You will be hated by all because of my name. <sup>18</sup>But not a hair of your head will perish. <sup>19</sup>By your endurance you will gain your souls.”

The gospel of the Lord.  
Praise to you, O Christ.

**CHILDREN’S SERMON  
SERMON**

**\*HYMN OF THE DAY: *By Gracious Powers***

1. By gra - cious pow'rs so won - der - ful - ly shel - tered,  
2. Yet is this heart by its old foe tor - ment - ed,  
3. And when this cup you give is filled to brim - ming  
4. Yet when a - gain in this same world you give us  
5. By gra - cious pow'rs so faith - ful - ly pro - tect - ed,

and con - fi - dent - ly wait - ing come what may,  
still e - vil days bring bur - dens hard to bear,  
with bit - ter suf - fring, hard to un - der - stand,  
the joy we had, the bright - ness of your sun,  
so qui - et - ly, so won - der - ful - ly near,

we know that God is with us night and morn - ing,  
oh, give our fright - ened souls the sure sal - va - tion,  
we take it thank - ful - ly and with - out trem - bling  
we shall re - mem - ber all the days we lived through  
we live each day in hope, with you be - side us,

and nev - er fails to greet us each new day.  
for which, O Lord, you taught us to pre - pare.  
out of so good and so be - loved a hand.  
and our whole life shall then be yours a - lone.  
and go with you through ev - 'ry com - ing year.

**\*APOSTLES' CREED**

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

**I believe in Jesus Christ, God's 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 to the dead.\*  
On the third day he rose again;  
he ascended into heaven,  
he is seated at the right hand of the Father,  
and he will come 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.**

**\*REMEMBERING THE SAINTS**

In joyful expectation of the resurrection to eternal life,  
we remember this day those who have gone before us in faith and who now rest from their labors.

O God, our help in ages past  
and our hope for years to come:

**We give you thanks for all your faithful people  
who have followed the light of your word  
throughout the centuries into our time and place.**

God of life, we remember and give thanks for: Bert & Jane Ann Bishop, David Bishop, Bud & Peg Hager, Delores Nelson, Leona & Loyal Ferguson, Agnes & Francis McKeon, Helen & Leland Hager, Bert & Hazel Bishop Sr., John Kelly, Henry E. Claus, Waldo & Edna Smallwood, Bob & Irene Davidson, Harry & Nancy Bratchie, Wally Strabel, Raymond & Ethel Tully, John & Emma Maguire, Michael & Margaret Tully, Rose Franicola, Whitey & JoAnn Richards, John & Myra Igersheim, Dennis Igersheim, Roy Page, John & Ethel Kissenger, Charles Grant Werner, Irvine & Imogene Werner, Doris & Harold McCandless, Charles & Anne Olescyski, Arthur & Agnes Pallan, Hank Tumpa, Bob O'Donnell, Lindsey Catteral, Beatta Mohr, Eugene Siembieda, Rehanna Lydon, Sam Gorseth, Mitzi Grise, Edith Duffy, Ryan Baker.

As we remember these your children,  
strengthen us to follow Christ through this world  
until we are carried into the harvest of eternal life,  
where suffering and death will be no more.

**Hear our prayer in the name of the good and gracious shepherd,  
Jesus Christ, our Lord and Savior.  
Amen.**

**\*PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION**

With the people of God gathered here and throughout the world, we offer our prayers for the church, those in need, and all of creation.

For the church, for missionaries and teachers, clergy and laity, and all ministers who proclaim the gospel in word and deed, that the Sun of righteousness enlighten the whole earth, let us pray. **Have mercy, O God.**

For rivers and lakes, hills and mountains, fruit and vegetables, and animals great and small, that creation thrive and that we care for all God has given us, let us pray. **Have mercy, O God.**

For all in authority at the local, state, provincial, national, and international levels, especially our president-elect, Donald Trump, and all newly elected to public office. May they do their work in a spirit of wisdom, kindness, and justice. We pray for those who advocate for equity, and for relief workers and their supporters, let us pray. **Have mercy, O God.**

For those who hunger or thirst, for those who doubt or are terrified, for those who suffer in body, mind, or spirit, especially Erin, Jim & Davena, Raymond, Francis & Grace, Kathryn, Jane, David & Ellen, those on our prayer list and all whom we remember aloud or in our hearts, and for caregivers, that all experience the healing and comfort given through Christ, let us pray. **Have mercy, O God.**

For those gathered in this place to hear the gospel and receive the good gifts of God through Christ Jesus, that guided by the Holy Spirit, we serve our neighbor who is in need, let us pray. **Have mercy, O God.**

For our military veterans, especially those who still bear the physical and psychological scars of war, and for their families. We pray for homeless and jobless veterans and for those who are disabled, and those who suffer from post-traumatic stress disorder, and lack of adequate medical and social services. Bring them your justice, healing and peace, let us pray, **Have mercy, O God.**

In thanksgiving for men and women of every time and place who have died in Christ, and that we follow their examples of faithful living, let us pray. **Have mercy, O God.**

For the outreach ministries of this congregation, especially the upcoming Night in Bethlehem event. For all those involved in the planning, preparation, and presentation of this program. May it be a witness to the light of Christ among us in the community, let us pray. **Have mercy, O God.**

Almighty God, you have promised to hear those who call upon your name. We commend all our spoken and silent prayers to you, trusting in your abundant mercy; through your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

**\*PEACE**

The peace of Christ be with you always.

**And also with you.**

**MEAL**

*God feeds us with the presence of Jesus Christ.*

**OFFERING**

**\*OFFERING HYMN #785: *When Peace is Like a River***

*All stand for the final refrain as the gifts are brought forward.*

**\*OFFERING PRAYER**

Let us pray.

Merciful God, as grains of wheat scattered upon the hills  
were gathered together to become one bread,  
so let your church be gathered together  
from the ends of the earth into your kingdom,  
for yours is the glory through Jesus Christ, now and forever. **Amen.**

**\*GREAT THANKSGIVING**

The Lord be with you.

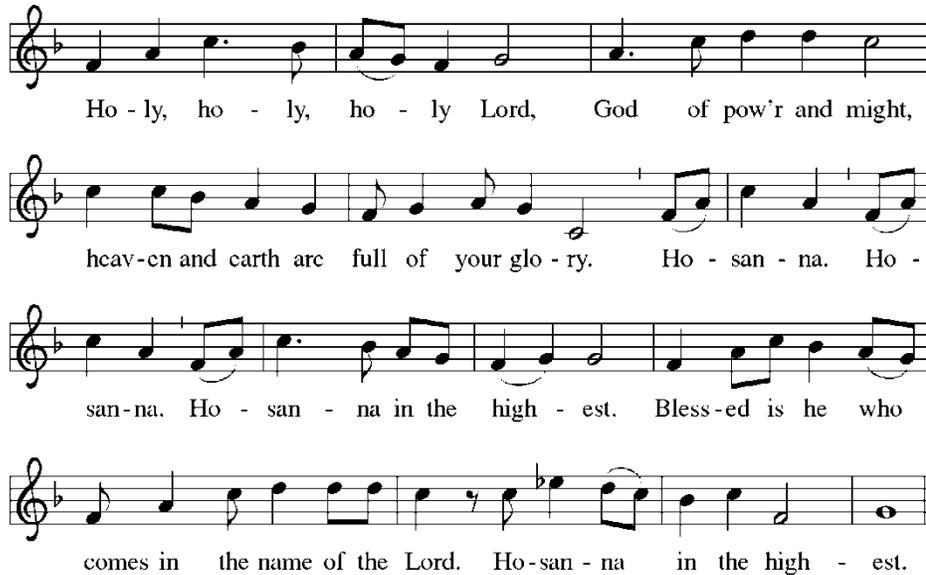
**And also with you.**

Lift up your hearts.

**We lift them to the Lord.**

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.  
**It is right to give our thanks and praise.**

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:



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.

Holy God,  
our Bread of life, our Table, and our Food,  
you created a world in which all might be satisfied by your abundance.  
You dined with Abraham and Sarah, promising them life,  
and fed your people Israel with manna from heaven.  
You sent your Son to eat with sinners  
and to become food for the world.

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.

Remembering, therefore,  
his life given for us  
and his rising from the grave,  
we await his coming again to share with us the everlasting feast.

By your Spirit nurture and sustain us with this meal:  
strengthen us to serve all in hunger and want,  
and by this bread and cup make of us the body of your Son.

Through him all glory and honor is yours,  
Almighty Father, with the Holy Spirit,  
in your holy Church,  
both now and forever.

**Amen.**

Gathered into one by the Holy Spirit, let us pray as Jesus taught us.

**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

Share in the inheritance of all the saints.  
Come to the table prepared for you.

### COMMUNION

The body of Christ, given for you. **Amen.**  
The blood of Christ, shed for you. **Amen.**

*In response to Jesus' invitation, all are welcome to come forward and experience the real presence of Christ in the bread and wine of communion. Through this meal, we know forgiveness, life and salvation as the blessings of God's sacramental grace. All are invited forward for communion or a blessing. The area of cups bordered by green tape has grape juice.*

### COMMUNION SONG: *Lamb of God*

The image shows four staves of musical notation for the Communion Song 'Lamb of God'. The music is written in a single melodic line on a treble clef staff with a key signature of one flat (B-flat). The lyrics are written below the notes. The first staff contains the lyrics: 'Lamb of God, you take a - way the sin of the world; have'. The second staff contains: 'mer-cy on us. Lamb of God, you take a - way the sin of the'. The third staff contains: 'world; have mer - cy on us. Lamb of God, you take a - way the'. The fourth staff contains: 'sin of the world; grant us peace.' The word 'grant' is underlined with a curved line.

**COMMUNION HYMN #629: Abide with Me**

**\*POST-COMMUNION BLESSING**

The body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen and preserve you in grace.

**Amen.**

**\*PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION**

We give you thanks, shepherding God,  
that you have gathered your scattered flock again this day,  
feeding us richly with the food of Paradise.

Accompany us as we serve you all the days of our lives,  
and gather us with the saints in the day of our death;  
through Jesus Christ, our Redeemer and Lord.

**Amen.**

**SENDING**

*God blesses us and sends us in mission to the world.*

**\*SENDING OF COMMUNION**

Gracious God, you took the form of a servant,  
offering yourself as food, comfort, and strength  
to a sick and hurting world.

Anoint with a servant heart  
those who take your word and sacrament  
to our sisters and brothers  
who are sick or homebound.

Grant grace, mercy, healing, and hope  
to those who feast on your body and blood  
and receive your words of new life.

May we all recognize that we have a place and a home  
in the body of our Lord Jesus Christ.

**Amen.**

**\*BLESSING**

God who loves us,  
who gives us eternal consolation and good hope,  
comfort your hearts  
and strengthen them in every good work and word;  
and the blessing of almighty God,  
Father, + Son, and Holy Spirit,  
be among you and remain with you forever.

**Amen.**

**\*SENDING SONG #439: Soon and Very Soon**

**\*DISMISSAL**

Go in peace. Christ is with you.

**Thanks be to God.**

**POSTLUDE: *Jesus Shall Reign* – David Cherwien**

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The flowers this week are given by Nan & Gary McCormick in celebration of the adoptions of Todd McCormick and Katie McClure 31 years ago. November is National Adoption Month.

**8:00 am**

**Assisting Minister:** Kelly Greb  
**Communion Assistant:** Missy Kramer  
**Acolyte:**  
**Lector:**  
**Usher:** Matt Claus  
**Attendance Last Week:** 77  
**Weekly Budgeted Expense:** \$ 3,374.14  
  
**YTD Budgeted Expenses:** \$151,836.14  
**YTD Actual Expense:** \$144,122.28

**10:30 am**

**Assisting Minister:** Martha Ward  
**Communion Assistant:** Jim Ward  
**Acolyte:**  
**Lector:**  
**Usher:**  
**Attendance Last Year:** 51  
**Last Week's General Giving:** \$ 5,948.04  
**Last Week's Designated Giving:** \$ 2,060.96  
**YTD Receipts:** \$131,096.88

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