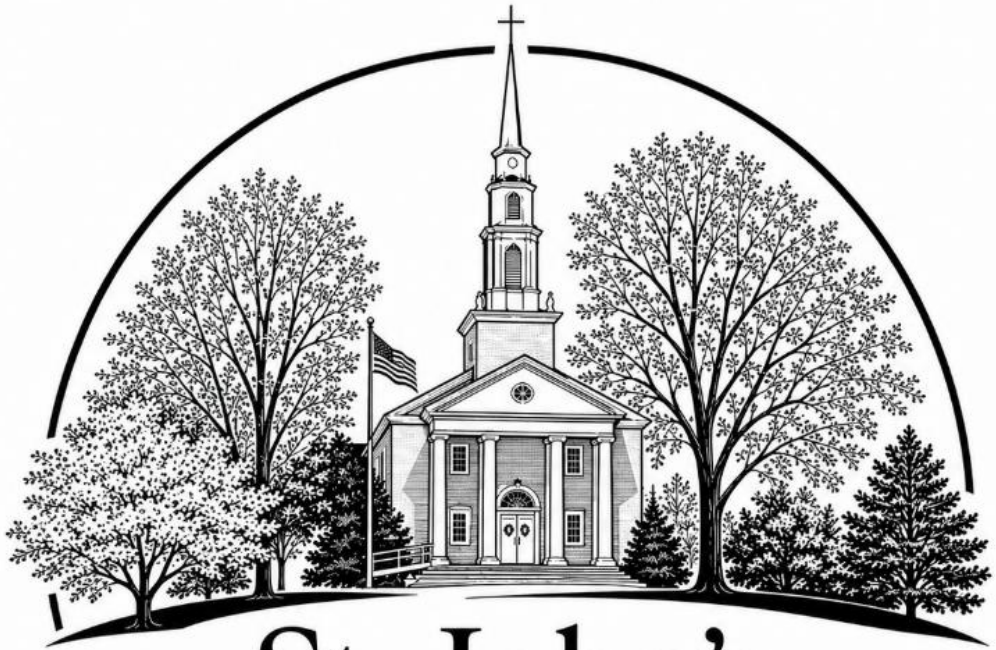




St. John's Lutheran Church

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STAMFORD, CONNECTICUT

ALL SAINTS' SUNDAY

November 1, 2026 | 10:30am

Welcome to St. John's. We invite you to join us as an active participant in the worship of God.

PRELUDE

Adoration

Florence B. Price

We stand.

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

All may make the sign of the cross, the sign that is marked at baptism.

In the name of the Father, and of the ✙ Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

Amen.

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.

Amen.

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.

Let us confess our sins against God and our neighbor.

We kneel or stand. Silence is kept for reflection.

Most merciful God,

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.

Almighty God, in his mercy, has given his Son to die for us and, for his sake, forgives us all our sins. As a called and ordained minister of the Church of Christ, and by his authority, I therefore declare to you the entire forgiveness of all your sins, in the name of the Father, and of the ✙ Son, and of the Holy Spirit. **Amen.**

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.

GLORIA



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.



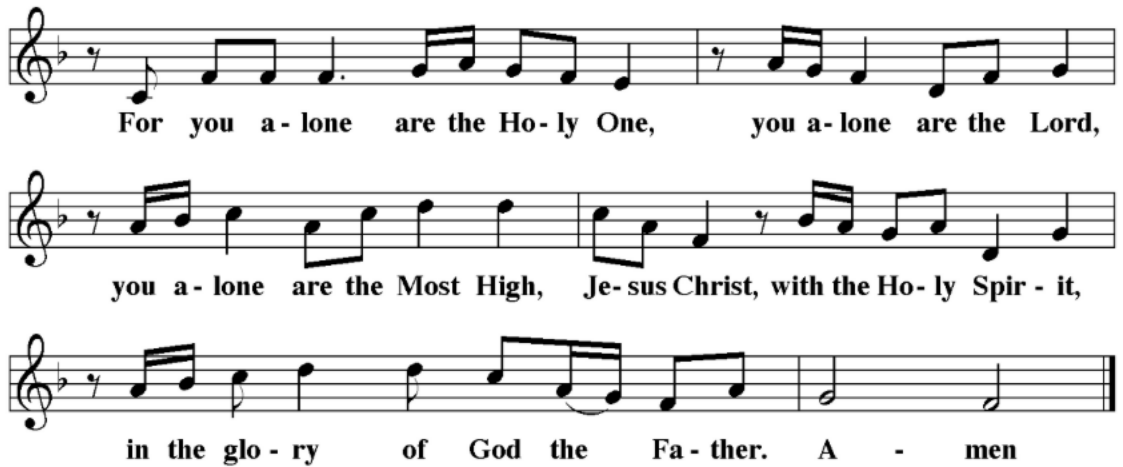
Lord Je - sus Christ, on - ly Son of the Fa - ther, Lord God, Lamb of God:



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.



PRAYER OF THE DAY

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Let us pray.

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.

We sit.

WORD

FIRST READING

REVELATION 7:9-17

A reading from Revelation

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.

¹⁰ They cried out in a loud voice, saying,

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

¹¹ 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, ¹² singing,

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

¹³ Then one of the elders addressed me, saying, “Who are these, robed in white, and where have they come from?” ¹⁴ 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.

¹⁵ 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.

¹⁶ They will hunger no more and thirst no more;
the sun will not strike them,
nor any scorching heat,

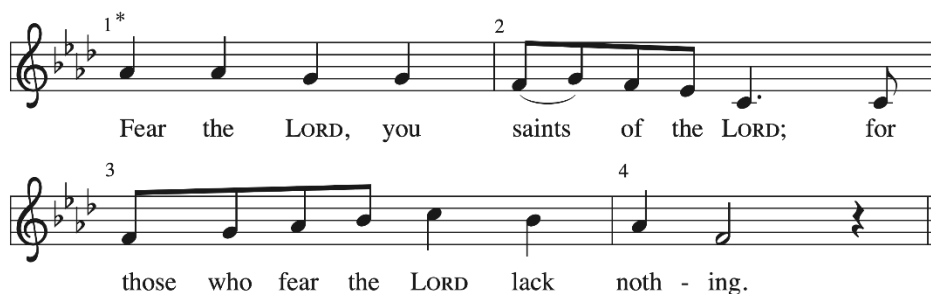
¹⁷ for the Lamb at the center of the throne will be their shepherd,
and he will guide them to springs of the water of life,
and God will wipe away every tear from their eyes.”

The word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

PSALM

PSALM 34:1-10, 22



**May be sung in canon.*

Psalm 34:9

Psalm refrain reproduced from *Psalter for Worship Year A* © 2007 Augsburg Fortress.

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Psalm tone reproduced from *Psalter for Worship Year C* © 2006 Augsburg Fortress.
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- ¹ I will bless the Lord | at all times;
the praise of God shall ever be | in my mouth.
- ² **I will glory | in the Lord;**
let the lowly hear | and rejoice. R
- ³ Proclaim with me the greatness | of the Lord;
let us exalt God's | name together.
- ⁴ **I sought the Lord, who | answered me**
and delivered me from | all my terrors.
- ⁵ Look upon the Lord | and be radiant,
and let not your faces | be ashamed.
- ⁶ **I called in my affliction, and | the Lord heard me**
and saved me from | all my troubles. R
- ⁷ The angel of the Lord encamps around those who | fear the Lord
and de- | livers them.
- ⁸ **Taste and see that the | Lord is good;**
happy are they who take ref- | uge in God!
- ⁹ Fear the Lord, you saints | of the Lord,
for those who fear the | Lord lack nothing.
- ¹⁰ **The lions are in want and | suffer hunger,**
but those who seek the Lord lack nothing | that is good.
- ²² O Lord, you redeem the life | of your servants,
and those who put their trust in you will | not be punished. **R**

SECOND READING

1 JOHN 3:1-3

A reading from 1 John

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. ² 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. ³ And all who have this hope in him purify themselves, just as he is pure.

The word of the Lord.
Thanks be to God.

We stand.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION



GOSPEL

MATTHEW 5:1-12

The holy gospel according to St Matthew, the fifth chapter.
Glory to you, O Lord.

When Jesus saw the crowds, he went up the mountain, and after he sat down, his disciples came to him. ² And he began to speak and taught them, saying:

³ “Blessed are the poor in spirit, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.

⁴ “Blessed are those who mourn, for they will be comforted.

⁵ “Blessed are the meek, for they will inherit the earth.

⁶ “Blessed are those who hunger and thirst for righteousness, for they will be filled.

⁷ “Blessed are the merciful, for they will receive mercy.

⁸ “Blessed are the pure in heart, for they will see God.

⁹ “Blessed are the peacemakers, for they will be called children of God.

¹⁰ “Blessed are those who are persecuted for the sake of righteousness, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.

¹¹ “Blessed are you when people revile you and persecute you and utter all kinds of evil against you falsely on my account. ¹² Rejoice and be glad, for your reward is great in heaven, for in the same way they persecuted the prophets who were before you.”

The gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, O Christ.

We sit.

**CHILDREN'S SERMON
SERMON**

REV. MARTHA MCCREIGHT

We stand.

HYMN OF THE DAY

Behold the Host

HYMN 425

During the hymn, individuals are welcome to come forward and light a candle for a loved one who has died.

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

**Or, He descended to the dead.*

We kneel or sit for the prayers.

PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

Each intercession ends with these words:

Lord, in your mercy,
Hear our prayer.

We stand.

PEACE

The peace of Christ be with you always.
And also with you.

We sit.

GREETINGS

OFFERTORY SENTENCE

Walk in love, as Christ loved us and gave himself for us,
an offering and sacrifice to God.

OFFERTORY ANTHEM

In Paradisum

Nadia Boulanger

May the angels lead you into paradise:
and with Lazarus, once a beggar,
may you have eternal rest.

*To support the mission and ministry of St. John's, you can give online at
www.stjohnelca.org or scan the QR code above.*

We stand.

MEAL



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.

GREAT THANKSGIVING



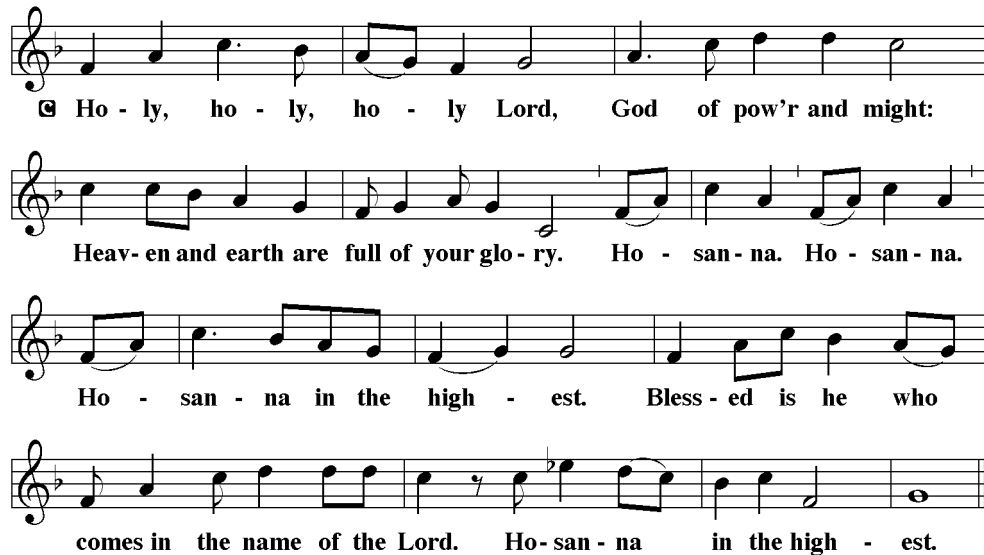
The Lord be with you. And al - so with you.

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.

Here the minister continues with preface for the day, concluding: 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.

You are indeed holy, almighty and merciful God;
you are most holy, and great is the majesty of your glory.
You so loved the world that you gave your only Son,
that whoever believes in him may not perish but have eternal life.
Having come into the world, he fulfilled for us your holy will
and accomplished our salvation.

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 salutary command,
his life-giving Passion and death,
his glorious resurrection and ascension, and his promise to come again,
we give thanks to you, Lord God Almighty,
not as we ought, but as we are able;
and we implore you mercifully to accept our praise and thanksgiving,
and, with your Word and Holy Spirit, to bless us, your servants,
and these your own gifts of bread and wine;
that we and all who share in the body and blood of your Son
may be filled with heavenly peace and joy,
and, receiving the forgiveness of sin, may be sanctified in soul and body,
and have our portion with all your saints.

All honor and glory are yours, O God, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit,
in your holy Church, 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.**

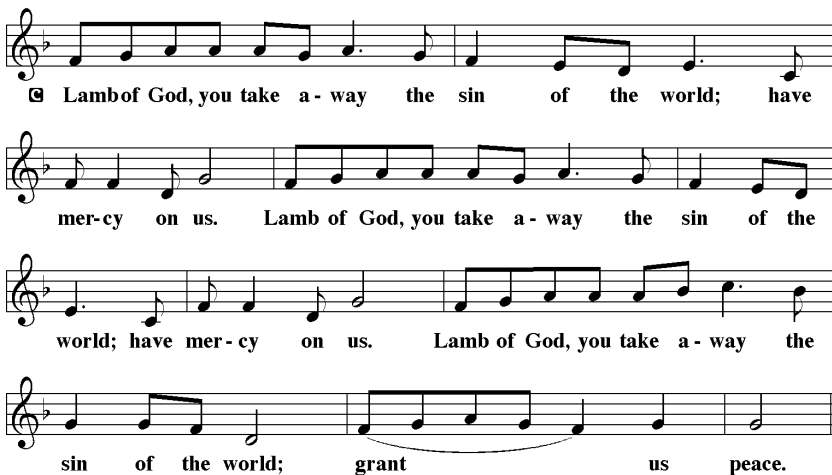
INVITATION TO COMMUNION

Alleluia. Christ our Passover is sacrificed for us;
Therefore, let us keep the feast. Alleluia.

All who believe that Jesus is present in the bread and wine, forgiving sins, and promising eternal life, are welcome at the Table of the Lord. Gluten-free wafers are available upon request.

We sit.

LAMB OF GOD



☩ Lamb of God, you take a - way the sin of the world; have
mer-cy on us. Lamb of God, you take a - way the sin of the
world; have mer - cy on us. Lamb of God, you take a - way the
sin of the world; grant us peace.

COMMUNION ANTHEM

How Lovely Is Thy Dwelling Place

Patrick Walker

COMMUNION HYMN

Shall We Gather at the River

HYMN 423

We stand.

POST COMMUNION PRAYER

Let us pray.

Pour out upon us the spirit of your love, O Lord, and unite the wills of those whom you have fed with one heavenly food; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

SENDING

BLESSING

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. **Amen**

HYMN AT THE PROCESSION

For All the Saints

HYMN 422

DISMISSAL

Let us bless the Lord.

Thanks be to God

POSTLUDE

Postlude in Canon on “Sine nomine”

Thomas J. Crawford

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All Saints Sunday

Commended to God: those who have gone before us.

Saint John's Lutheran Church Saints who have joined the Church Triumphant
in the Last Year:

Diane Egley

Ron Meyer

Christians killed in terrorist attacks around the world
All Service men and women killed in combat or active duty

Anne Budner, John Sadlon, Jr. & Mike Zboray

by Andrea Budner

Wenzel Eichler

by Roberta Eichler

Nathan Newhall

by Amy Newhall

John Sadlon, Jr.

by Jack & Carol Sadlon

Altar flowers today were given by Andrea Budner in remembrance of Anne Budner, John Sadlon, Jr. and Mike Zboray.

What do Lutherans believe about Saints?

“Saints” in the Lutheran church are those who are baptized believers: all of us are saints (a word meaning “holy”). God makes us holy through the death of Christ Jesus. However, some of the faithful Christians through the ages have been so heroic in their life of faith that the church has given them the official title “saint.” We believe what our Lutheran Confessions say: “It is taught among us that saints should be kept in remembrance so that our faith may be strengthened when we see what grace they received and how they were sustained by faith. Moreover, their good works are to be an example for us, each of us in his own calling...However, it cannot be proved from the Scriptures that we are to invoke saints or seek help from them. For there is one mediator between God and men, Christ Jesus.” Augsburg Confession Article 21.

Worship Leaders Today

Celebrant & Preacher	The Rev. Martha McCreight
Organist	Patrick Walker
Worship Assistant	Michele Effren
Reader	
Communion Assistant	
Altar Committee	
Counters	Pam Bartlett, Cheryl & Joe Milukas
Little Free Pantry	Shirley Schulz
Coffee Hour	Pat Geils

WEEKLY CALENDAR

Monday, November 2

4:15pm SJLC Kids Club

Tuesday, November 3

7:00pm Richard Gowers Concert

Wednesday, November 4

12:00 noon Weekly Eucharist - Chapel

4:30 pm Confirmation Class

6:00 pm Hand Bells

7:00 pm Choir

UPCOMING EVENTS

Sunday, November 8

Consecration Sunday

9:30 am Intergenerational Sunday School

10:30 am Worship ONLY

11:30 am Ice Cream Social

Sunday, November 29

5:00 pm Advent Night

Wednesday, November 11

12:00 noon Weekly Eucharist - Chapel

No Confirmation - Veterans Day

6:00 pm Hand Bells

7:00 pm Choir

Sunday, December 13

5:00pm Santa Lucia Program with Scandinavian goodies afterwards!



WE NEED YOU!

ACOLYTE SIGN-UP



WORSHIP ASSISTANTS, COMMUNION ASSISTANTS, READERS, USHERS, COFFEE HOUR, AND LFP SIGN-UP



This week we pray for . . . Aiden, Andrew, Barbara, Beryl, Cat, Chrissy, Cody, Debbie, Gary, Gerald, James, Julie, Kelly, Kim, Lily, Marie, Sandra, Shirley, Toby, Valerie, Volter, Barbara, Kim, Debbie, Chrissy, and Gianna . If you have someone to add to the prayer list, please email the parish office. |

Contact Pr Martha for pastoral needs at 406-565-3592. |

Parish Office: parishoffice@sjlcstamford.com |

Pastor Martha: MMcCreight@sjlcstamford.com |

Interim Director of Music: musicdirector@sjlcstamford.com

Finance: finance@sjlcstamford.com



We are delighted to have you with us today! To help us keep track of our cherished visitors, we kindly ask that you sign the visitor book located in the Narthex. This small gesture allows us to connect with you and offer any assistance you may need. Additionally, our ushers are more than happy to provide guidance and answer any questions you might have during worship. Whether you're here for the first time or returning, we hope you feel welcomed.



Busy bags are in the Narthex for your little ones to enjoy. These bags are thoughtfully prepared to keep children engaged during the service. Additionally, we invite you to explore and make use of the Pray ground area at the back of the Sanctuary and/or the Nursery, both designed to provide a welcoming and enriching environment for our young attendees. We hope these resources help create a meaningful and enjoyable experience for your family.

Mission Statement

All are welcome! We share Christ's love, grow in faith, and serve others.

+ -

A reminder that Consecration Sunday is coming up on November 8. We will gather for one service that day at 10:30am.

Over these past weeks of our Stewardship Campaign, we have reflected on Jesus' words, "You shall love your neighbor as yourself" and on what it means to give with intention and love.

Please continue to pray about your Giving intention for the year ahead; any level that is possible for your household makes a difference. On November 8, we will all bring our Giving Intention slips forward at church (don't forget there is only one service that day!). Then, please stay for Sundae Fun, an ice cream social in the Welcome Room right after worship.

Thank you for all the ways you give to St. John's.



GIVING WITH LOVE

Our 2026 Giving Intention Campaign

“You shall love your neighbor as yourself.” • Mark 12:31

This fall, St. John’s begins a six-week journey of faith, gratitude, generosity, and love.

How do we love our neighbors through St. John’s?

Our gifts help make possible the worship, care, fellowship, outreach, and ministry we share together.

- ♥ Why St. John’s matters
- ♥ Giving with ease and consistency
- ♥ Why Giving Intentions matter
- ♥ Making faithful commitments

Giving with Intention. Giving with Gratitude. Giving with Love.

MAKE YOUR GIVING INTENTION ONLINE

Scan the QR code to complete your Giving Intention through our secure Google Form.



SAVE THE DATE! CONSECRATION SUNDAY • NOVEMBER 8, 2026

Bring your Giving Intention to 10:30am worship, then stay for our Ice Cream Social!

Sundae Fun for Everyone!



The St. John’s Stewardship / Giving Intention Committee