

The Twenty-Fourth Sunday after Pentecost:
Consecration Sunday

November 8, 2026 | 10:30am

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

PRELUDE *Prelude in G (BWV541-1)* J.S. Bach

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.

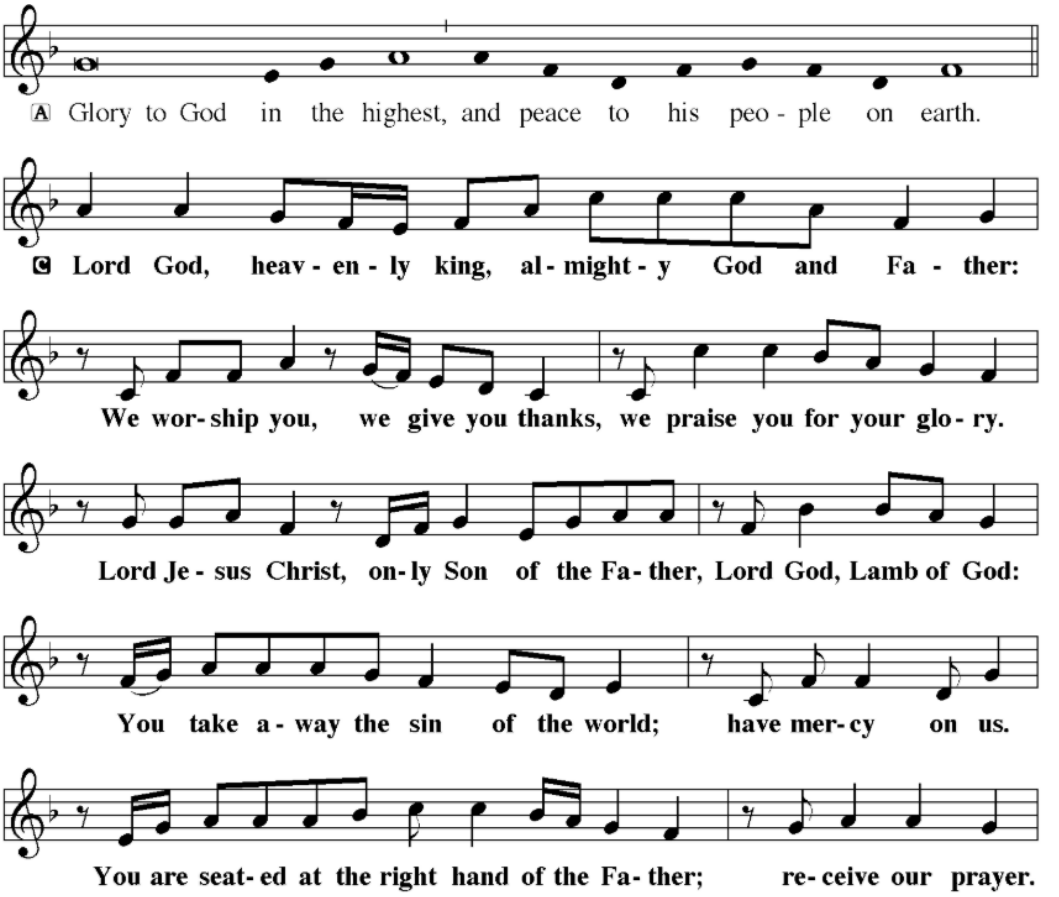
Almighty God, in his mercy, has given his Son to die for us and, for his sake, forgives us all our sins. As a called and ordained minister of the Church of Christ, and by his authority, I therefore declare to you the entire forgiveness of all your sins, in the name of the Father, and of the ☩ Son, and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

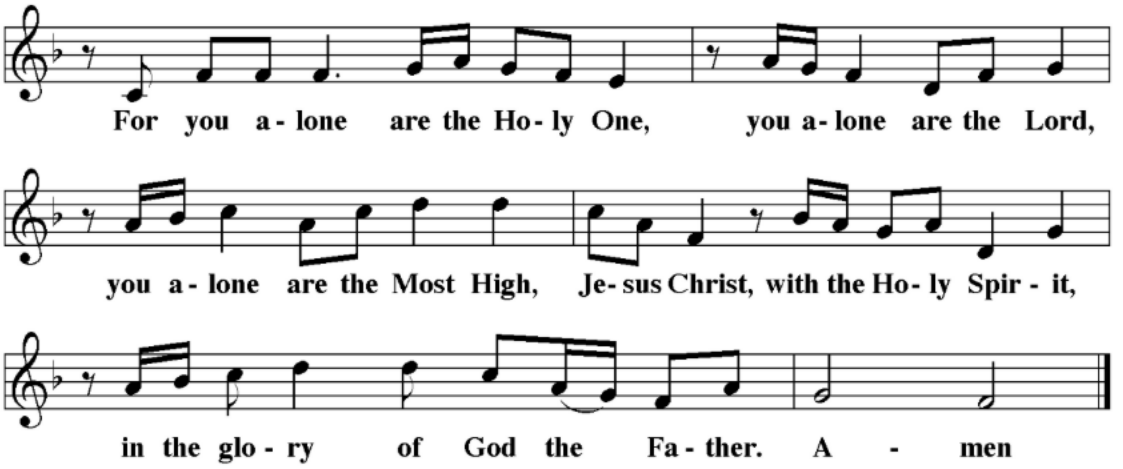
HYMN AT THE PROCESSION *Open Now Thy Gates of Beauty* HYMN 533

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





PRAYER OF THE DAY

The Lord be with you.
And also with you.
Let us pray.
Stir up, O Lord, the wills of your faithful people to seek more eagerly the help you offer, that, at the last, they may enjoy the fruit of salvation; through our Lord Jesus Christ. **Amen.**

We sit.

WORD

FIRST READING AMOS 5:18-24
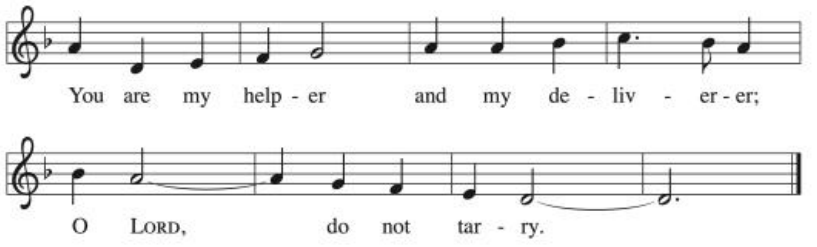
A reading from Amos

Woe to you who desire the day of the Lord!
Why do you want the day of the Lord?
It is darkness, not light,
19 as if someone fled from a lion
and was met by a bear
or went into the house and rested a hand against the wall
and was bitten by a snake.
20 Is not the day of the Lord darkness, not light,
and gloom with no brightness in it?

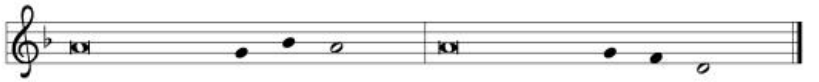
[21] I hate, I despise your festivals,
and I take no delight in your solemn assemblies.
[22] Even though you offer me your burnt offerings and grain offerings,
I will not accept them,
and the offerings of well-being of your fatted animals
I will not look upon.
[23] Take away from me the noise of your songs;
I will not listen to the melody of your harps.
[24] But let justice roll down like water
and righteousness like an ever-flowing stream.

The word of the Lord.
Thanks be to God.

PSALM . PSALM 70



Psalm 70:5
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Psalm tone reproduced from *Psalter for Worship Year C* © 2006 Augsburg Fortress.
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1 Be pleased, O God, to de- | liver me;
O Lord, make | haste to help me.
2 Let those who seek my life be put to shame | and confounded;
let those who take pleasure in my misfortune draw back and | be disgraced. R
3 Let those who say to me "Aha!" and gloat | over me

turn back because | of their shame.
4 Let all who seek you rejoice and be | glad in you;
let those who love your salvation say forever, "Great | is the Lord!"
5 But as for me, I am poor and needy; come to me quick- | ly, O God.
You are my helper and my deliverer; O Lord, | do not tarry. R
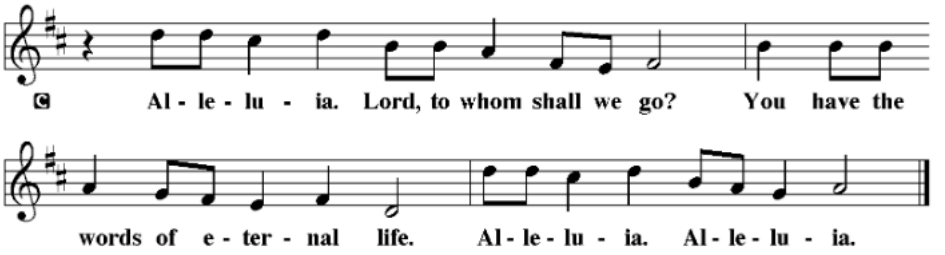
SECOND READING 1 THESSALONIANS 4:13-18

A reading from 1 Thessalonians

We do not want you to be uninformed, brothers and sisters, about those who have died, so that you may not grieve as others do who have no hope. [14] For since we believe that Jesus died and rose again, even so, through Jesus, God will bring with him those who have died. [15] For this we declare to you by the word of the Lord, that we who are alive, who are left until the coming of the Lord, will by no means precede those who have died. [16] For the Lord himself, with a cry of command, with the archangel's call and with the sound of God's trumpet, will descend from heaven, and the dead in Christ will rise first. [17] Then we who are alive, who are left, will be caught up in the clouds together with them to meet the Lord in the air, and so we will be with the Lord forever. [18] Therefore encourage one another with these words. The word of the Lord.
Thanks be to God.

We stand.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION



GOSPEL MATTHEW 25:1-13

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

Jesus said to the disciples:] [1] "Then the kingdom of heaven will be like this. Ten young women took their lamps and went to meet the bridegroom. [2] Five of them were foolish, and five were wise. [3] When the foolish took their lamps, they took no oil with them, [4] but the wise took flasks of oil with their lamps. [5] As the bridegroom was delayed, all of them became drowsy and slept. [6] But at midnight there was a shout, 'Look! Here is the bridegroom! Come out to meet him.' [7] Then all those young women got up and trimmed their lamps. [8] The foolish said to the wise, 'Give us some of your oil, for our lamps are going out.' [9] But the wise replied, 'No! there will not be enough for you and for us; you had better go to the dealers and buy some for yourselves.' [10] And while they went to buy it, the bridegroom came, and those who were ready went with him into the wedding banquet, and the door was shut. [11] Later the other young women came also, saying, 'Lord, lord, open to us.' [12] But he replied, 'Truly I tell you, I do not know you.' [13] Keep awake, therefore, for you know neither the day nor the hour."
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 *Arise, My Soul, Arise* HYMN 827

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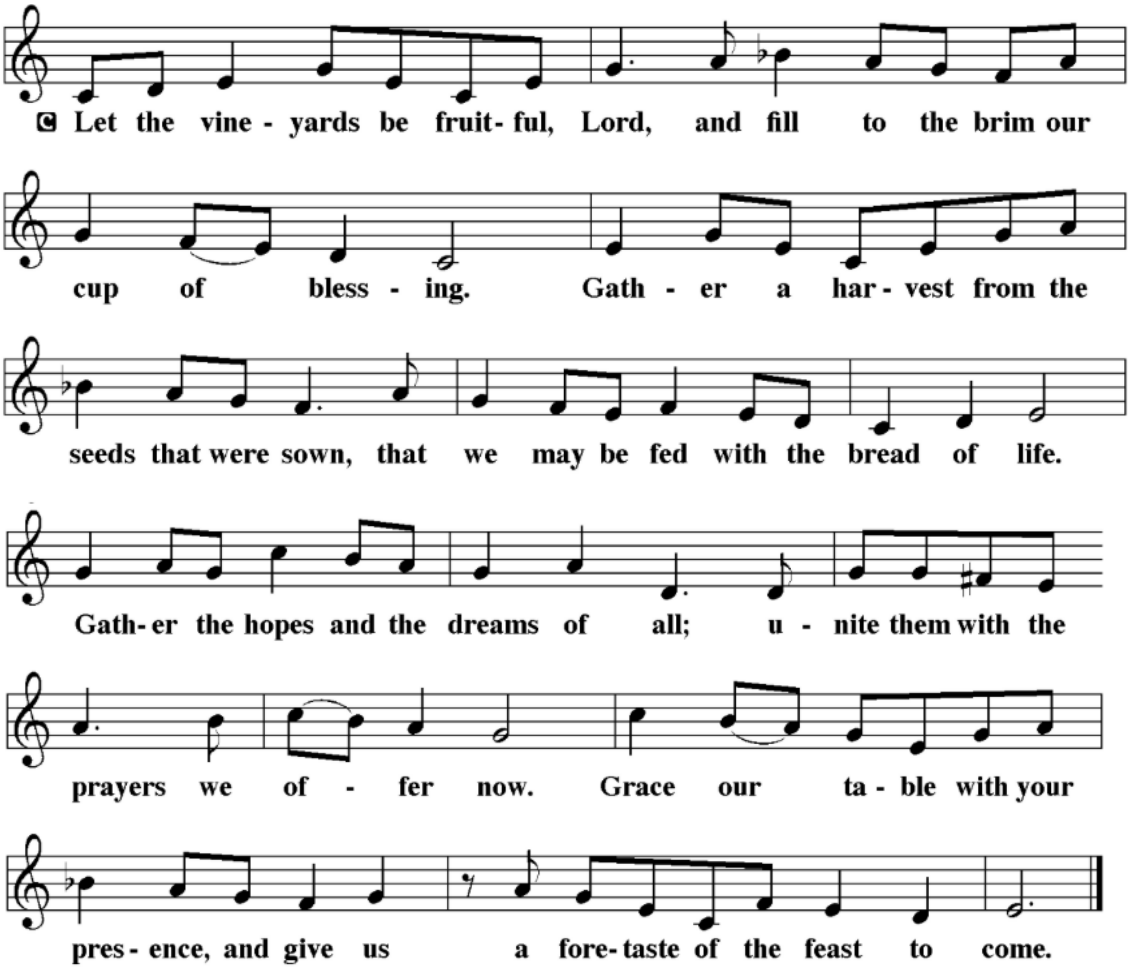
To support the mission and ministry of St. John's, you can give online at www.stjohnelca.org or scan the QR code above.

OFFERTORY ANTHEM *Keep Your Lamps!* *arr.* Andre Thomas

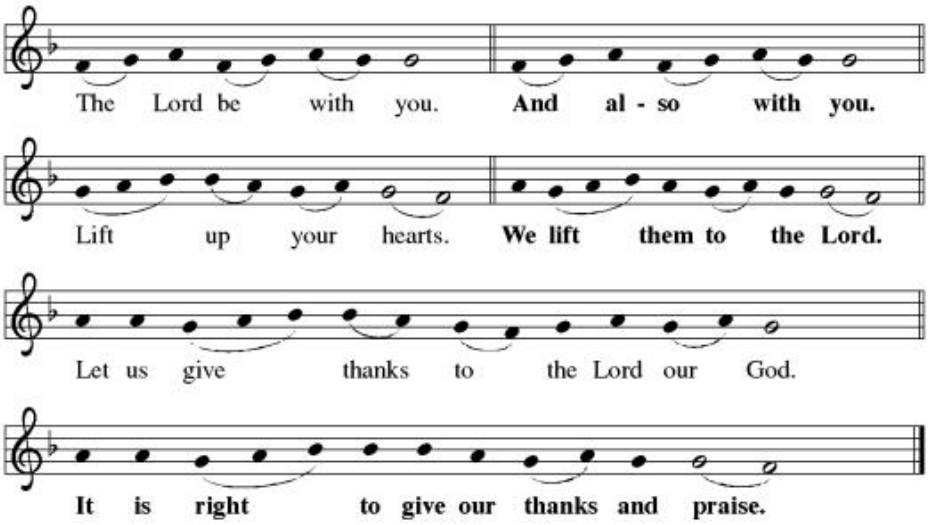
We stand.

MEAL

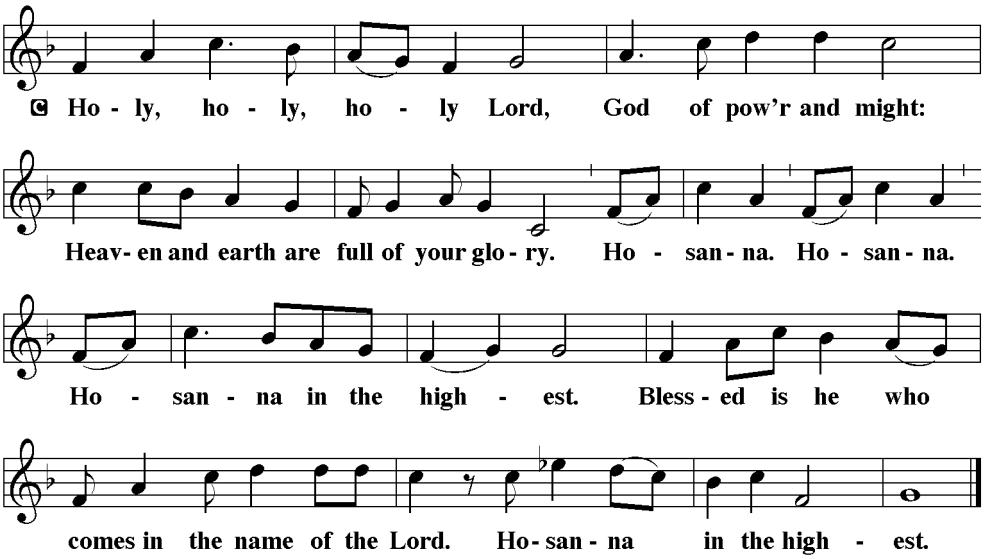
HYMN AT THE PRESENTATION



GREAT THANKSGIVING



Here the minister continues with preface for the day, concluding: we praise your name and join their unending hymn:



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.

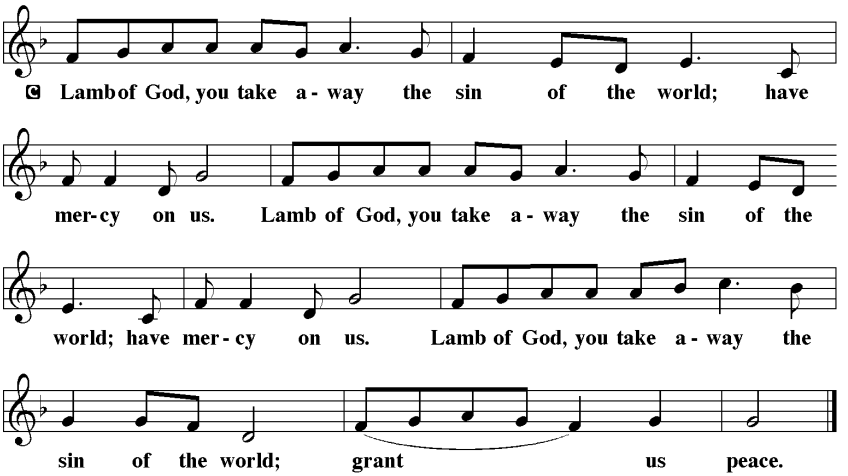
INVITATION TO COMMUNION

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



COMMUNION ANTHEM

COMMUNION HYMN *Now We Join in Celebration* HYMN 462

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 *On Our Way Rejoicing* HYMN 537

DISMISSAL

Let us bless the Lord.
Thanks be to God

POSTLUDE *Fugue in G (BWV541-2)* J.S. Bach

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Worship Leaders Today

Celebrant & Preacher	The Rev. Martha McCreight
Organist	Patrick Walker
Worship Assistant	Michele Effren
Reader	Jen Leffers
Communion Assistant	Jen Leffers
Acolyte	Sam Leffers
Altar Committee	Pam Bartlett, Cathy Mahler
Counters	Pam Bartlett, Cheryl & Joe Milukas
Little Free Pantry	Cathy & Mike Mahler
Coffee Hour	Stewardship Committee

WEEKLY CALENDAR

Wednesday, November 11
12:00 noon Weekly Eucharist - Chapel
NO Confirmation Class - Veterans Day
6:00 pm Hand Bells
7:00 pm Choir



UPCOMING EVENTS

Sunday, November 29
First Sunday of Advent
8:30 am & 10:30 am Worship
5:00 pm Advent Night

Sunday, December 13
6:00 pm 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, Christian, 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.

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