

ST. JOHN'S EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH

120 N. Main St., Lewistown, PA 17044-1719

Main Office: 717-248-8780 Mon. Tues., Thurs. 8:00AM-4:00 PM Fri. 8-Noon

stjohnslewisstown@gmail.com

Interim Pastor: Rev. Allen Hulslander 570-220-4402 (cell)

Office Hours: Tues. 9am-Noon and Thurs. 9am-Noon *please call ahead.

Director of Music/Organist: Mrs. Patricia O. Loudenslager

<http://www.stjohnslewisstown.com>

www.facebook.com/St.John'sLutheranChurch,LewistownPA

Sunday, November 1st, 2026, 9:00AM All Saints Day / Setting 3



INTRODUCTION

All Saints celebrates the baptized people of God, living and dead, who are the body of Christ. As November heralds the dying of the landscape in many northern regions, the readings and liturgy call us to remember all who have died in Christ and whose baptism is complete. At the Lord's table we gather with the faithful of every time and place, trusting that the promises of God will be fulfilled and that all tears will be wiped away in the new Jerusalem.

WELCOME to worship at St. John's, whether virtually or in person. We are delighted to share this time together. St. John's focus is to share the Good News of Jesus Christ, strengthen believers and care for those in Need.

HOLY COMMUNION is served by a 2-line procession down the center aisle. We will celebrate with bread, wine, or grape juice. Gluten-free wafers are also available.

GIVE TO ST. JOHN'S Offering plates are located at each entrance. If you prefer to give electronically, visit our website, and click on the **E-Giving Tab**. Use your existing login information. For new users, search for St John's Lutheran Church Lewistown. Information on **E-Giving** is available on the SJLC resource table. Thank you for your continued support.

IF YOU ARE A VISITOR, we would like to get to know you. Please fill out a visitor's card from the pew rack and place it on the offering plate at the entrances. May Christ's spirit be with each and every one of us in our congregational life and faith journey.

LARGE PRINT SERVICE BOOKLETS are available, please see a door greeter.

SERVING TODAY

Celebrant – Rev. Craig Miller, Bishop Upper Susquehanna Synod

Interim Pastor – Allen Hulslander

Acolytes – Mina Phillips, Hillary Worley

Altar Guild Volunteers – Sharon Gibboney, Collette Croyle, Keira Martin

Cantor – Nellie Wilson

Communion Assistants – Dave Ray, Ginny Ray, Jenna Dudukovich

Crucifer – Dave Ray

Lay Lector – Jim Rosenberry

Ushers – Dennis Noble – head, Sandy Noble, Deb Kling

Media & Production – Grant and Carrie Stufft, Nancy Ressler, Annette Rager

PRELUDE 9:00 AM "Shall We Gather at the River?" Robert Lowery, Arr. Phillip Keveren, 2019 Hal Leonard LLC

Piano Duet with Nellie Wilson

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

GATHERING

*Please stand as you are able. Congregational responses are in **Bold**. Red Hymnal (ELW) will be used for parts of the service.*

THANKSGIVING FOR BAPTISM

Blessed be the holy Trinity, one God,
the fountain of living water,
the rock who gave us birth,
our light and our salvation.

Amen.

Joined to Christ in the waters of baptism,
we are clothed with God's mercy and forgiveness.
Let us give thanks for the gift of baptism.

We give you thanks, O God,
for in the beginning your Spirit moved over the waters
and by your Word you created the world,
calling forth life in which you took delight.

Through the waters of the flood you delivered Noah and his family.
Through the sea you led your people Israel from slavery into freedom.
At the river your Son was baptized by John and anointed with the Holy Spirit.
By water and your Word you claim us as daughters and sons,
making us heirs of your promise and servants of all.

We praise you for the gift of water that sustains life,
and above all we praise you for the gift of new life in Jesus Christ.
Shower us with your Spirit,
and renew our lives with your forgiveness, grace, and love.

To you be given honor and praise
through Jesus Christ our Lord
in the unity of the Holy Spirit, now and forever.
Amen.

Processional Hymn

ELW pg. #728 "Blest Are They"

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.

Kyrie

ELW pg. #138 Setting 3

This Is the Feast

ELW pg. #140 Setting 3

PRAYER OF THE DAY

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.

Please be seated.

Special Music

"I Am Bound for the Kingdom"

From "The Sacred Harp" 1844, Arr. Lloyd Larson

2014 Beckenhorst Press, Inc.

Chancel Choir

CHILDRENS MESSAGE *All children are invited forward.*

WORD

First Reading: Revelation 7:9-17

The book of Revelation is written to seven churches in western Asia Minor during a time of great oppression. Today's reading is a response to the question asked in 6:17: "Who is able to stand?" The writer gives the faithful the assurance of God's protection and a vision of victory.

⁹ 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.”

Reader ends with: **“The Word of the Lord.”**

Congregation responds: **“Thanks be to God.”**

Psalm: Psalm 34:1-10, 22

Fear the LORD, you saints of the LORD; for those who fear the LORD lack nothing. (Ps. 34:9)

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.

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.**

⁷ The angel of the LORD encamps around those who fear the LORD
and delivers them.

⁸ **Taste and see that the LORD is good;
happy are they who take refuge 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.

Second Reading: 1 John 3:1-3

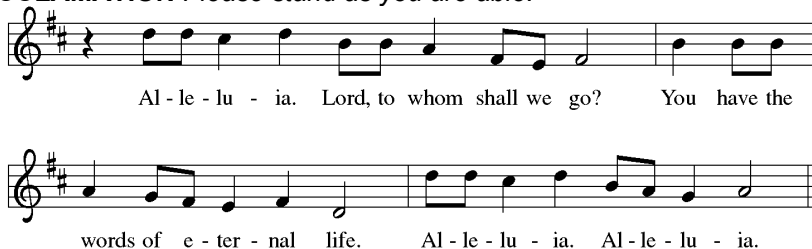
A saint is one who has been set apart by God for God's purposes. God, out of divine love, set us apart to be the children of God. Our holy hope is that we shall see God as God really is.

¹ 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.

Reader ends with: **"The Word of the Lord."**

Congregation responds: **"Thanks be to God."**

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION *Please stand as you are able.*



The Holy Gospel according to Matthew the 5th Chapter.

Glory to you, O Lord.

Gospel: Matthew 5:1-12

In the Beatitudes, Jesus provides a unique description of those who are blessed with God's favor. His teaching is surprising and shocking to those who seek wealth, fame, and control over others.

¹ 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."

After the reading ...

The Gospel of the Lord. **Praise to you, O Christ.**

Please be seated.

SERMON

Bishop Craig Miller

Apostles' Creed

Please stand as you are able.

**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.**

PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

The petitions end with: “God, in your mercy”
And the Congregational response is
“hear our prayer”

Keep In Prayer: Deb Montgomery, Larry Niemond, Gail Ingram, Linda Goss, Toby Sweigart, Freda Hook, Darwin Guyer, Steve Yohn, Patti Niemond, the Rankin family and the Call Committee.

*To have someone added to the Prayer Guide-with their permission-please contact the church office.

SHARING of GOD’S PEACE

Share the Peace in a safe manner.
Simply say the words. *“Peace be with You.”*
“And also with you.”

Saints We Honor Today:

Suzanne Grassmyer	12/2/2025
Kay Thomas	1/6/2026
Gladys Varner	1/12/2026
Louis Sonnenberg	3/1/2026
Harold Dyer	3/18/2026
Sally Mixer	4/20/2026
Joann Troutman	7/25/2026
Connie Nause	8/8/2026
Mary Barr	8/26/2026
Charlotte Dyer	10/6/2026

MEAL *Please continue to stand.*

Let the Vineyards Be Fruitful

Offering Song

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 dreams of
all; u-nite them with the prayers we of-fer. Grace our ta-ble
with your pres-ence, and give us a fore-taste of the feast to come.

The musical notation is a single melodic line in G major (one flat) on a treble clef staff. It consists of five lines of music, each corresponding to a line of lyrics. The melody is simple and hymn-like, with a final double bar line at the end of the fifth line.

OFFERING PRAYER

Eternal God, our time, talents, and treasures are gifts from you.
Receive what we offer, and all that you entrust to us, until hungry
no more, all the world is fed, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.
Amen.

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.

The musical notation is a single melodic line in G major (one flat) on a treble clef staff. It consists of four lines of music, each corresponding to a line of lyrics. The melody is simple and hymn-like, with a final double bar line at the end of the fourth line.

COMMUNION PREFACE

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. By the witness of your saints, you show us the hope of our calling and strengthen us to run the race set before us, that we may delight in your mercy and rejoice with them in glory. And so, with all the saints, with the choirs of angels and all the hosts of heaven, we praise your name and join their unending hymn:

Holy, Holy, Holy

ELW pg. #144 Setting 3

THANKSGIVING AT THE TABLE

God of our weary years, God of our silent tears, you have brought us this far along the way.

In times of bitterness, you did not abandon us but guided us into the path of love and light. In every age you sent prophets to make known your loving will for all humanity. The cry of the poor has become your own cry; our hunger and thirst for justice is your own desire. In the fullness of time, you sent your chosen servant to preach good news to the afflicted, to break bread with the outcast and despised, and to ransom those in bondage to prejudice and sin.

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 all people for the forgiveness of sin.
Do this for the remembrance of me.

For as often as we eat of this bread and drink from this cup we proclaim the Lord's death until he comes.

Christ has died.

Christ is risen.

Christ will come again.

Remembering, therefore, his death and resurrection, we await the day when Jesus shall return to free all the earth from the bonds of slavery and death.

Come, Lord Jesus!

And let the church say, Amen.

Amen.

Send your Holy Spirit, our advocate, to fill the hearts of all who share this bread and cup with courage and wisdom to pursue love and justice in all the world.

Come, Spirit of freedom!

And let the church say, Amen.

Amen.

Join our prayers and praise with your prophets and martyrs of every age, that, rejoicing in the hope of the resurrection we might live in the freedom and hope of your Son. Through him, with him, in him, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, all glory and honor is yours, almighty Father, now and forever.

Amen.

The Lord's Prayer (SUNG) Inside back cover of Hymnal.

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 debts, as we forgive our debtors; and lead us not into temptation but deliver us from evil.

For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever. Amen.

INVITATION

In bread and cup the reign of Christ is breaking in.

Come, receive what Christ has prepared.

Lamb of God

ELW pg. #208 Setting 3

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

All who are baptized are invited to come forward. Children, if not already communing, may be brought forward for a blessing from the Pastor. Please hold both hands out to receive the bread, then choose a cup from the Acolyte. Please dispose of your communion cup in the nearby waste basket.

Communion Music

“Sweet By and By” Joseph P. Webster, Arr. Mark Hayes, 2003 Alfred Pub. Co., Inc.
“For All the Saints” Ralph Vaughan Williams, Arr. Cindy Berry, Oxford University Press
“Deep River” Spiritual, Arr. Calvin Taylor, 2007 Alfred Pub. Co., Inc

POST-COMMUNION PRAYER

Holy God, we have received your never-ending mercy in this meal.
You continuously seek the lost, bind the injured, and feed your people abundantly. Now send us out, awake to your presence, now and forever.

Amen.

SENDING

BLESSING

The holy Trinity, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit,
bless you with wisdom to welcome the reign of
God, today and always.

Amen.

Sending Hymn

ELW pg. #628 “Jerusalem, My Happy Home”

Silent Meditation

DISMISSAL

Go in peace. Encourage one another.

Thanks be to God.

POSTLUDE “Sing with All the Saints in Glory” (#426 in our hymnal)

*From Sundays and Seasons.com. Copyright © 2026 Augsburg Fortress. All rights reserved. Reprinted by permission under Augsburg Fortress Liturgies Annual License. New Revised Standard Version Bible, Copyright © 1989, Division of Christian Education of the National Council of the Churches of Christ in the United States of America. Used by permission. All rights reserved. Revised Common Lectionary, Copyright © 1992 Consultation on Common Texts, admin Augsburg Fortress. Used by permission. **NOTICE: Audio/Video recording** When you enter a St. John's Evangelical Lutheran worship service/event, you will be entering an area where photography, video and audio recording may occur. Please see notes at entrances for further details. Live-Streaming will continue as needed- if you are behind camera, you will not be on camera.*

DEDICATIONS

TODAY'S ALTAR FLOWERS are presented by Cheryl and Ed Bressler in honor of Cheryl's mother Elizabeth Sampsell.

TODAY'S BASKET is presented by Bob McCormick in honor of his children Bob and Kim.

THIS WEEK'S BULLETIN is presented by Paula and Charlie Hershberger in thankfulness for God's grace, mercy and salvation.

THIS WEEK'S ETERNAL CANDLE BURNS in honor and memory of loved ones given by Nancy Ressler.

THE COMMUNION WINE is given by Jeremiah and Betty Weaver in honor of loved ones.

ST. JOHN'S NEWS

WE WELCOME Reverend Craig Miller, Bishop of the Upper Susquehanna Synod, who is worshipping with us today. We will have social time following the services in the social room.

MEET AND EAT ladies' luncheon is on **Tuesday, November 3rd** at Sa-lee's Restaurant at 12-Noon. Please consider joining us. Would love to have you.

GRACE LUTHERAN church in State College, Pa. is having a benefit concert for food distribution on **Saturday, November 7th**, at 3:00pm. The concert is organized by Dr. Peter Douglas, Director of Music. Donations of shelf-stable food is greatly appreciated.

THE SOCIAL MINISTRY and Evangelism Committees will be sponsoring home delivered meals monthly for our shut-ins or any older member who doesn't cook much and would like a meal! We would also like to deliver to anyone with a recent illness etc. Please let Nikki Hidlay, Norma Fisher or the office know if you would like to be added to the delivery list. Meals will be ready for delivery after church on Sundays so can be taken home then as well. If members know of a neighbor or congregational member that would benefit from this ministry, please add them to the list! Upcoming delivery dates are **November 8th and December 13th**. If you would like to help make food or delivery meals and haven't signed up yet, please see Nikki or text me at 717-994-6058. Thank you!

HOAGIE SALE The Barnabas Brothers' next hoagie sale is on **Friday, November 13th**. Orders are due on **Sunday, November 8th**. The cost is \$6.00ea. If you have any questions, please contact Steve Burk.

THANKOFFERING MEAL There will be a meal following the Thankoffering service on **Sunday, November 15th**. Ham will be provided. Congregational members are invited to bring a dish to share. Please see Nikki or Mark Hidlay with any questions.

THE STEWARDSHIP CAMPAIGN is underway. Forms are at each entrance of the sanctuary and on the resource table. If you've volunteered for the same thing year after year, we ask you to re-enlist every year so that we know you are still interested. Please complete and return the form to the church office no later than **Sunday, November 15th**. This way the Stewardship

Committee can have an updated list of volunteers in a timely manner. Thank you for volunteering and helping SJLC get off to a good start in 2027.

TRIVIA QUESTION How many volunteers does it take to prepare for and assist with worship every Sunday? If you guessed **14 to 16 volunteers**, you are correct. Our volunteers for every **Sunday** worship service are as follows: **Media** (sound system, camera and live streaming) - 2 to 3 volunteers, **Altar Guild** - 2 to 3 volunteers, **Acolytes** - 2 volunteers, **Communion Assistant** - 2 volunteers, **Crucifer** - 1 volunteer, **Lay Lector** - 1 volunteer, **Ushers** - 3 volunteers and **Cantor** - 1 volunteer. The support these volunteers provide is invaluable to Pastor Allen and the congregation. When Stewardship Forms are available this Fall, please consider volunteering. If you have any questions about what's involved, please see me. As the saying goes "Many hands make light work." Sue Shawver- Worship and Music Committee

GODLY PLAY SUNDAY SCHOOL (for all ages) is an amazing experience scriptures and parables "come alive." Godly Play dates are as follows: 11/08, 12/06, 01/10, 02/07, 03/07, 04/04, 05/02. All are welcome!

ST. JOHN'S LUTHERAN CHURCH will be hosting "**Messiah**" **Sunday, December 6th** at 3:00pm with Fred Benner as the Conductor. Rehearsals will be on Sunday's at 3:00pm beginning on **November 1st, 8th, 15th, 22nd, and 29th**. Any singers who are interested please join us!

4th QUARTER OFFERING has been designated for Mother Hubbard's Cupboard.

THE CHRISTMAS OFFERING has been designated for 1/2 camperships and 1/2 energy bank.

ACOLYTES We have had adults show interest in being acolytes. If this is something you may be interested in, please see Norma Fisher to be added to the schedule.

NEW LUMINA CENTER community restaurant cards are here! Cards sell for **\$10** and have discounts for **20 local restaurants**. New cards will be effective August 31, 2026, through August 31, 2027. Please see Janet Deamer or Susan C. in the church office.

COMMUNION ROBES If your communion robe is in need of cleaning (i.e. wine) please place it in the laundry basket in the robe room.

WEATHER ALERT If the Mifflin County School District is delayed, closed, or closing due to snow and ice, the SJLC Office and all activities in the church facility will be postponed or cancelled.

SJLC OFFICE lunch hour Tuesday and Thursday is between 11:30am -12:30pm.

LOST & FOUND there is a lost and found box in the lobby on the shelf above the coat rack. Please check for any items that you may be missing.

COMMITTEES/ORGANIZATIONS

SJLC COUNCIL MEETING is on **Tuesday, November 24th, at 6:30pm.**

LUMINA HAM SANDWICH sales have been moved to the **third Friday in November** (20th). Orders are due the Sunday before and sandwiches are \$4.00ea.

MOTHER HUBBARDS CUPBOARD items for **November/December** are holiday meal items such as canned ham, stuffing, instant mashed potatoes, gravy, vegetables, pie filling, pie crust mix, cake mixes and icing.

Worship SCHEDULE

November 8 [Twenty- Fourth Sunday after Pentecost] 9:00am Worship, 10:15am Godly Play

November 15 [Twenty-Fifth Sunday after Pentecost] 9:00am Worship, 10:15am Sunday School

November 22 [Christ the King] 9:00am Worship, 10:15am Sunday School

November 29 [First Sunday of Advent] 9:00am Worship, 10:15am Sunday School

December 6 [Second Sunday of Advent] 9:00am Worship, 10:15am Godly Play

Meetings (Please see above for details)

Tue. November 24th Council Meeting at 6:30pm.

Wed. Choir practice 6:00pm

Reminders for November

Acolytes – Gisele Miller, Candy Sonnenberg

Altar Guild Volunteers – Sharon Gibboney, Collette Croyle, Keira Martin

Communion Assistants – Dave Ray, Ginny Ray, Jenna Dudukovich

Ushers – Dennis Noble, Sandy Noble, Deb Kling

Money Counters – Judy Spencer, Scott Welham

Lay Lectors

November 1 – Jim Rosenberry

November 8 – Youth

November 15 – Gisele Miller

November 22 – Ed Deamer

November 29 – Cora Rankin

Next Sunday's Readings: *Amos 5:18-24, Psalm 70, 1 Thessalonians 4:13-18, Matthew 25:1-13*