

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 [REDACTED]

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 20, 2022 9:00 AM ✦ *Christ the King Sunday / Setting 4 C*



Introduction to the Day

Jeremiah's promise of the execution of "justice and righteousness in the land" finds ironic fulfillment in the execution of Jesus of Nazareth, the King of the Jews. It appears utterly contradictory that a king should be crucified with a criminal. This victory appears for all the world as humiliating defeat. Yet through the gate of death Jesus opens the door to paradise.

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 will be by 2-line procession through the center aisle. We will celebrate with wafers, wine and grape juice (please notify Acolyte). Gluten-free wafers are also provided-please tell the Pastor when communing. *If you prefer to use Pre-filled communion cups they are available at each entrance.

GIVE TO ST. JOHN'S We are currently not passing the plate, you will find plates located at each entrance. If you would like to give electronically to God's work through St. John's Lutheran Church, visit our website and click on the **E-Giving Tab** to go to a [secure form](#) through VANCO. You may also download the app, *VANCO MOBILE* and use your existing login information or provide new. For New Users: search for St Johns Lutheran of Lewistown to find our church. From there you can setup your e-giving how you would like. Look for an information sheet on the church resource table in the Fellowship Hall or ask the office admin. for help. Thank You for your continued support.

OTHER WORSHIP SPACE is available in the fellowship hall, where service can be heard. There is a [nursery room](#) (2nd fl education wing) if needed as we do not provide nursery care. The service can be heard from this room. Thank you for bringing your children to worship. God's family includes all ages!

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 in the offering plate. 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

Pastor – Rev. Allen Hulslander

Ushers – Ed Stewart, Gloria Stewart, Pam Tressler

Cantor - Tracey Boyer *Lay Lector*- Larry Niemond

Communion Assistants – Hillary Worley, Nikki Hidlay, Glen Hetrick

Crucifer – Glen Hetrick

Acolytes – Mara Gallo & Nevin Farley

Media & Production – Grant and Carrie Stufft , Nancy Ressler and Mary Barr

PRELUDE 9:00 AM

“We Gather Together”

A. Valerius, “Nederlandsch Gedenckclanck

Handbell Choir

WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS

GATHERING

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

CONFESSION & FORGIVENESS

All may make the sign of the cross, the sign that is marked at baptism, as the presiding minister begins. Please stand as you are able.

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

Amen.

God of all mercy and consolation, come to the help of your people, turning us from our sin to live for you alone. Give us the power of your Holy Spirit that we may confess our sin, receive your forgiveness, and grow into the fullness of Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

Amen.

Let us confess our sin in the presence of God and of one another.

(pause for reflection . . .)

Most merciful God,

We confess that we are captive 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.

In the mercy of Almighty God, Jesus Christ was given to die for us, and for his sake God 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.

GATHERING HYMN

ELW #838 “Beautiful Savior”

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 (sung)

Cantor sings dialogue, congregation responds:

(ELW pg. 147 setting 4 for music)

Lord, have mercy. (4x)

CANTICLE OF PRAISE (sung)

(ELW pg. 149 setting 4 for music)

Cantor: This is the feast of victory for our God. Alleluia.

Worthy is Christ, the Lamb who was slain, whose blood set us free to be people of God. Power and riches and wisdom and strength, and honor and blessing and glory are his. This is the feast of victory for our God. Alleluia. Sing with all the people of God and join in the hymn of all creation: Blessing and honor and glory and might be to God and the Lamb forever. Amen. This is the feast of victory for our God, for the Lamb who was slain has begun his reign. Alleluia. Alleluia.

PRAYER OF THE DAY

Please be seated.

SPECIAL MUSIC

“We Will Glorify” with “O Worship the King”

Twila Paris; Joseph Martin

Kraus and Robert Grant, Arr. Tom Fettke and Thomas Grassi

Chancel Choir

WORD

First Reading – Jeremiah 23:1-6 *Coming of the shepherd and righteous Branch who will execute justice*

¹Woe to the shepherds who destroy and scatter the sheep of my pasture! says the LORD. ²Therefore thus says the LORD, the God of Israel, concerning the shepherds who shepherd my people: It is you who have scattered my flock, and have driven them away, and you have not attended to them. So I will attend to you for your evil doings, says the LORD. ³Then I myself will gather the remnant of my flock out of all the lands where I have driven them, and I will bring them back to their fold, and they shall be fruitful and multiply. ⁴I will raise up shepherds over them who will shepherd them, and they shall not fear any longer, or be dismayed, nor shall any be missing, says the LORD.

⁵The days are surely coming, says the LORD, when I will raise up for David a righteous Branch, and he shall reign as king and deal wisely, and shall execute justice and righteousness in the land. ⁶In his days Judah will be saved and Israel will live in safety. And this is the name by which he will be called: “The LORD is our righteousness.”

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

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

Psalm 46 *Read responsively by whole verse.*

¹God is our refuge and strength,
a very present help in trouble.

²**Therefore we will not fear, though the earth be moved,
and though the mountains shake in the depths of the sea;**

³though its waters rage and foam,
and though the mountains tremble with its tumult.

⁴**There is a river whose streams make glad the city of God,
the holy habitation of the Most High.**

⁵God is in the midst of the city; it shall not be shaken;
God shall help it at the break of day.

⁶**The nations rage, and the kingdoms shake;
God speaks, and the earth melts away.**

⁷The LORD of hosts is with us;
the God of Jacob is our stronghold.

⁸**Come now, regard the works of the LORD,
what desolations God has brought upon the earth;**

⁹behold the one who makes war to cease in all the world;
who breaks the bow, and shatters the spear, and burns the shields with fire.

¹⁰**“Be still, then, and know that I am God;
I will be exalted among the nations; I will be exalted in the earth.”**

¹¹The LORD of hosts is with us;
the God of Jacob is our stronghold.

Second Reading – Colossians 1:11-20 *Hymn to Christ, firstborn of all creation;
peace through his blood*

¹¹May you be made strong with all the strength that comes from his glorious power, and may you be prepared to endure everything with patience, while joyfully ¹²giving thanks to the Father, who has enabled you to share in the inheritance of the saints in the light. ¹³He has rescued us from the power of darkness and transferred us into the kingdom of his beloved Son, ¹⁴in whom we have redemption, the forgiveness of sins.

¹⁵He is the image of the invisible God, the firstborn of all creation; ¹⁶for in him all things in heaven and on earth were created, things visible and invisible, whether thrones or dominions or rulers or powers—all things have been created through him and for him. ¹⁷He himself is before all things, and in him all things hold together. ¹⁸He is the head of the body, the church; he is the beginning, the firstborn from the dead, so that he might come to have first place in everything. ¹⁹For in him all the fullness of God was pleased to dwell, ²⁰and through him God was pleased to reconcile to himself all things, whether on earth or in heaven, by making peace through the blood of his cross.

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

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

CHILDRENS MESSAGE *all children are invited forward*

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION *Please stand as you are able.*



The Holy Gospel according to Luke, the 23rd Chapter.

Glory to you, O Lord.

Gospel – Luke 23:33-43 *You have raised up for us a mighty Savior.*

³³When they came to the place that is called The Skull, they crucified Jesus there with the criminals, one on his right and one on his left. ³⁴[[Then Jesus said, "Father, forgive them; for they do not know what they are doing."]] And they cast lots to divide his clothing. ³⁵And the people stood by, watching; but the leaders scoffed at him, saying, "He saved others; let him save himself if he is the Messiah of God, his chosen one!" ³⁶The soldiers also mocked him, coming up and offering him sour wine, ³⁷and saying, "If you are the King of the Jews, save yourself!" ³⁸There was also an inscription over him, "This is the King of the Jews."

³⁹One of the criminals who were hanged there kept deriding him and saying, "Are you not the Messiah? Save yourself and us!" ⁴⁰But the other rebuked him, saying, "Do you not fear God, since you are under the same sentence of condemnation? ⁴¹And we indeed have been condemned justly, for we are getting what we deserve for our deeds, but this man has done nothing wrong." ⁴²Then he said, "Jesus, remember me when you come into your kingdom." ⁴³He replied, "Truly I tell you, today you will be with me in Paradise."

After the reading ...

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

Please be seated.

SERMON

Pastor Allen

Nicene Creed

Please stand as you are able. Together we confess:

**We believe in one God,
the Father, the Almighty,
maker of heaven and earth,
of all that is, seen and unseen.**
**We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ,
the only Son of God,
eternally begotten of the Father,
God from God, Light from Light,
true God from true God,
begotten, not made,
of one Being with the Father;
through him all things were made.**
**For us and for our salvation
he came down from heaven,
was incarnate of the Holy Spirit and the virgin Mary**

and became truly human.
For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate;
he suffered death and was buried.
On the third day he rose again
in accordance with the scriptures;
he ascended into heaven
and is seated at the right hand of the Father.
He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead,
and his kingdom will have no end.

We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life,
who proceeds from the Father and the Son,*
who with the Father and the Son is worshiped and glorified,
who has spoken through the prophets.
We believe in one holy catholic and apostolic church.
We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins.
We look for the resurrection of the dead,
and the life of the world to come. Amen.

PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

The petitions end: "Lord, in your mercy";

And the Congregational response is:

"receive our prayer"

Sharing of God's Peace

Share the Peace in a safe manner.

Simply say the words, *"Peace be with You."*

And also with you.

Keep In Prayer: Deb Montgomery,
Bob Shaw, Patty Wagner, Michaela
Nagel, Jane Campbell

*To have someone added to the Prayer
Guide-with their permission-please
contact the church office. Names
typically removed after 4 wks unless
otherwise notified.

MEAL *Please continue to stand*

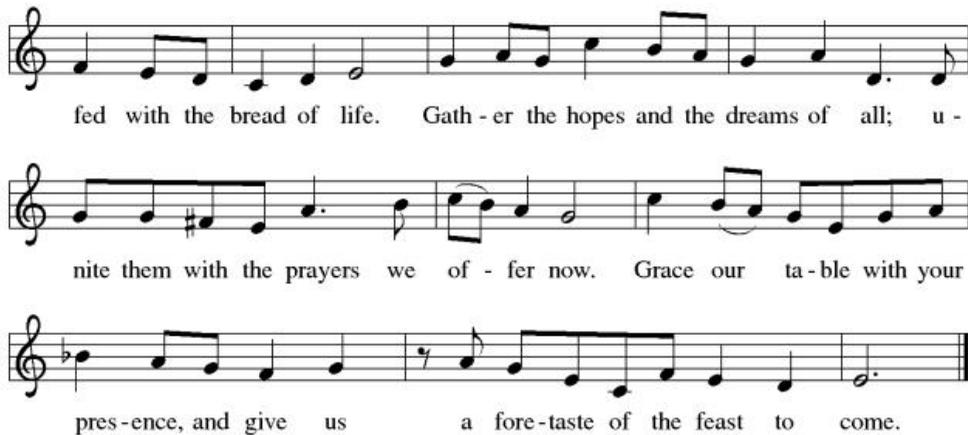
OFFERING SONG



Let the vine - yards be fruit - ful, Lord, and fill to the brim our cup of



bles - sing. 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.

OFFERING PRAYER

GREAT THANKSGIVING (spoken)

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.**

COMMUNION PREFACE

It is indeed right, our duty, and our joy, that we.....
 and join their unending hymn (sung):

Holy, Holy, Holy

ELW pg. 153 setting 4

THANKSGIVING AT THE TABLE

The presiding minister continues:

In the night in which he was betrayed, our lord Jesus.....

Again, after supper, he took the cup, gave thanks,

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

C: Christ has died. Christ is risen. Christ will come again.

Remembering, therefore, his salutary commandTo you, O God, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, be all honor and glory in your holy church, now and forever. **Amen**

THE LORD'S PRAYER (sung) *Please turn to the back of the Red Hymnal hard cover*

INVITATION

Christ spreads a table before you. Gather here with all the saints.

COMMUNION

*If you feel comfortable at this time, all who are baptized are invited to come forward as directed from the front through the middle aisle. Children, if not already communing, may be brought forward for a blessing from the Pastor. Please hold both hands out to receive the wafer, then an Acolyte will hand you a cup. Please dispose in a near waste basket.



LAMB OF GOD

ELW pg. 154 setting 4

Communion Distribution Music

"He Is Exalted" Twila Paris, Arr. Lloyd Larson

"You Are My King" Billy James Foote, Arr. Victor Labenske

"How Beautiful" Twila Paris, Arr. Mark Hayes

POST-COMMUNION BLESSING

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

POST-COMMUNION PRAYER

We give you thanks, most gracious God, that you have fed us with the bread of heaven and given us a foretaste of Paradise. Enliven us to be your body in the world and to serve those who are in need; through Jesus Christ our Lord.

Amen.

SENDING

BLESSING

The God of peace, who creates all things and calls them good, who makes us alive in Jesus, and who breathes on us the Spirit of hope, ✠ bless you now and forever.

Amen.

SENDING HYMN

ELW #439 "Soon and Very Soon"

Silent Meditation

DISMISSAL

Go in peace. Be a blessing in the world. **Thanks be to God.**

POSTLUDE

"Crown Him with Many Crowns"

George J. Elvey, Arr. Cindy Berry

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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 BULLETINS are presented by Mrs., Doris Hidlay in honor of her grandchildren, Will and Olivia Shields and Heath, Hayden, Trent and Lydia Hidlay.

THE ALTAR FLOWERS are given in memory of my wife, Isabel Borland by Mr. David Borland.

THIS WEEK'S ETERNAL CANDLE BURNS in honor of Robert W. McCormick, Jr.'s 84th birthday (Nov 19) from his children, grandchildren and great-grandchildren.

THE COMMUNION WINE this morning is given by Susie Croyle in memory of her husband Ron Croyle.

ST. JOHN'S NEWS

Children (all ages) Room 203 of the education wing

Adult classes will meet in the Conference Room (Women of the Bible) and the Library. All classes begin at approximately 10:15 and last 45 min. -hr.



Job Opening **CHURCH ADMINISTRATOR**

St. John's is looking to fill Kristy's position by the end of November into December as she has decided with a heavy heart to pursue another opportunity into the new year. If you or anyone you know may be interested in performing part-time secretarial, clerical, and office management duties needed for the operation of St.

John's please inquire with the office or Scott Welham (Personnel) [REDACTED]
Applicant expected to average 20 hours per week with no health care benefits, sick leave or paid vacation. A job description is available in the office.

WEATHER ALERT If the Mifflin County School District is closed or closing due to snow and ice, the Church Office and any activities to be held in the church facility for the remainder of the day and evening are cancelled or postponed.

SPECIAL ENVELOPES for staff Christmas gifts are located by the offering plates. They may be placed in the offering plates or mailed to/dropped off at the Church Office. Donations must be collected by Sunday, December 4, 2022 so that they will be included in the gifts presented to the staff. (Please see any Council member with questions.) Thank you for helping to show our appreciation for the staff that serve St. John's Lutheran Church.



IT'S TIME TO ORDER POINSETTIAS! Poinsettia color choices for this year are white, red, burgundy, pink and jingle bell (multi-color). Cost is \$8.25 per flower. Please put completed forms and payment in the locked box, located on the resource table in the fellowship hall. **Orders are due by Sunday, December 4, 2022.**



Attention Cookie bakers and fudge makers are needed for this year's Festival of Ice Cookie Walk. Best sellers include chocolate & peanut butter fudge, chocolate chip cookies/bars, snickerdoodles, peanut butter cookies blossoms, and sugar cookies. Please feel free to make your favorite treat. **Donations can be dropped off at the church on Wednesday, November 30th from 9 AM – 4 PM and by Noon on Thursday, Dec. 1st.** The Cookie Walk will be held at the Old Mifflin County Courthouse Thursday & Friday, December 1st & 2nd from 6-9 PM. Please contact Carrie Thierwechter at [REDACTED] if you have any questions. All donations are welcome and greatly appreciated. Thank you in advance for your support of this St. John's tradition.

OUR MEET & EAT GROUP will be meeting at *The Bread of Life Restaurant*, Mcalisterville, Tuesday, December 6th at Noon. All women of the congregation are invited. If you need a ride, meet at the church at 11 a.m.

CHRISTIAN EDUCATION

Christmas Pageant Director, Patty Loudenslager, will hold a Saturday Practice for all of those involved December 10th at 10:00 am. The Christmas Pageant will be presented Dec. 11th.
Pizza Party for all children and those participating in Pageant will be Saturday, December 10th at 11 am directly following practice.



PORK & SAUERKRAUT MEAL TODAY by the Sr/Jr High Sunday School Class. Take out orders only will be available after the church service or Sunday school. Cost is \$8.00. Money raised will be used for Holiday food baskets for children in need locally.

THE 4th QUARTER SPECIAL OFFERING —> Shining Light & Mifflin County School District Homeless Assistance Program
CHRISTMAS OFFERING —> St. John's Helping Hands

SEE INSERT FOR MORE ANNOUCEMENTS