

St. John's Lutheran Church

Serving God through the ELCA in the Metropolitan New York Synod



Worship Guide for the First & Second Sunday of Christmas

Welcome to worship at St. John's Lutheran Church!

Through Word and Sacrament, we are God's people rooted in the abiding presence of our Lord, Jesus Christ, and empowered to serve by God's Holy Spirit!

Responding to the Good News of Christ, we live out our calling as people of faith.

Here at St. John's, our Mission Statement expresses our grace-empowered desire to be disciples in our everyday lives:

“Encountering, Connecting, Responding to Jesus Christ.”

We give thanks to God for this day and the opportunity to gather together as God's family to be fed with the Word and the Meal that sustains us for daily life!

For the Hearing-Impaired:

We have a T-Coil Hearing Assistance System in place in the worship space.

The T-Switch must be activated on your hearing aid.

Feel free to ask an usher if you need assistance.

Health Emergency Notes:

If anyone needs **glucose**, or juice for a **hypoglycemic medical emergency**, juice boxes are available in the small fridge in the Meet and Greet Room (Room 118), just around the corner from the sanctuary. Glucose tablets and gel are in the **First Aid Kits** in the *Entrance area coat room*, and in the *kitchen in the Fellowship Hall*. Please let a staff member know if you use any, so that they can be replaced right away!

In the unfortunate case of heart failure, our **DEFIBRILLATOR** is located across the hall from *Room 111 (Youth Ministry Office)*.



Please Note: this worship service is being live-streamed.

Please be aware that, by attending, you may appear on camera.

Footage will be posted on our church website and social media, such as YouTube.

Additional hand-held video footage may be taken for use on our church website.

GATHERING

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

Our prelude music is designed to help you and your neighbors to relax, settle in, and immerse yourselves in some quiet time with God before we begin our worship service. This is also a good time to double check your portable devices to make sure they are on “mute.” We hope that this prelude music will enhance your worship experience and bring peace to you.

Prelude

Confession and Forgiveness

Deacon Blessed be the Holy Trinity, † one God, full of compassion and mercy, and abounding in steadfast love.

All Amen.

Deacon Trusting in Christ’s promise of forgiveness, let us now turn our hearts toward God in humble confession.

Silence is kept for reflection. Please kneel or sit.

Deacon Gracious God,

All You are our breath and our very life. We are the work of your hands, the children of your creation. We confess that we have often turned from you and sought our own path through life. Forgive us our offenses, and cleanse us from proud thoughts and empty desires. By your grace draw us near to you, that you may be our refuge and our strength; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Deacon As Pastor Koenig reminds us each week, God, who is rich in mercy, loved us even when we were still far away, and has given us new life through our Lord Jesus Christ. By grace you have been saved, and in the name of the Father, and of the † Son, and of the Holy Spirit, God now forgives you all your sins!

All Amen.

Gathering Hymn *(See Insert)*

Apostolic Greeting

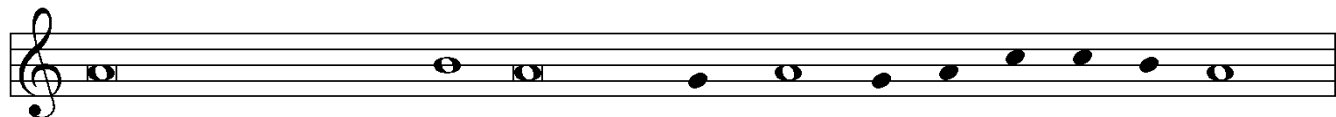
Deacon The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God,
and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

All And also with you.

Kyrie



A In peace, let us pray to the Lord. **C** Lord, have mer - cy.



A For the peace from a-bove, and for our sal-vation, let us pray to the Lord.



C Lord, have mer - cy.



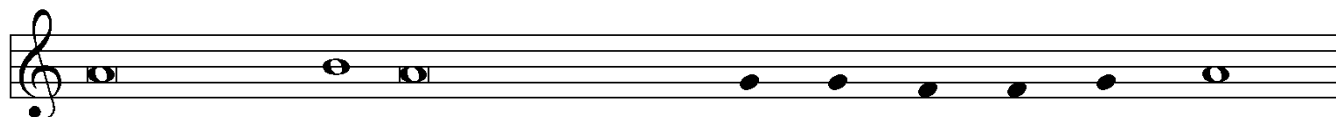
A For the peace of the whole world, for the well-being of the Church of God,



and for the u - ni - ty of all, let us pray to the Lord.



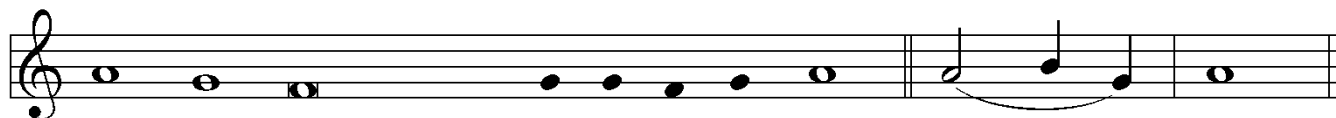
C Lord, have mer - cy.



A For this holy house, and for all who offer here their wor - ship and praise,



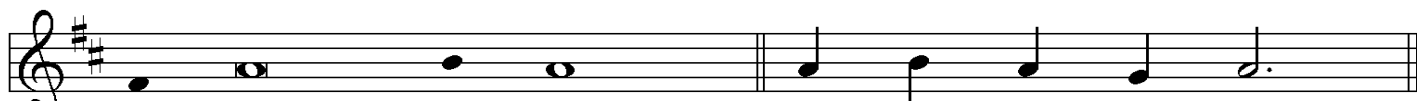
let us pray to the Lord. **C** Lord, have mer - cy.



A Help, save, comfort, and de - fend us, gra-cious Lord. **C** A - men

Prayer of the Day

The presiding minister gathers the congregation into prayer.



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

Deacon Let us pray...

(See Insert)

All Amen.

The congregation is seated

WORD

First Reading *(See Insert)*

Reader The word of the Lord.

All Thanks be to God!

Second Reading *(See Insert)*

Reader The word of the Lord.

All Thanks be to God!

Please stand if you are able

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.

Deacon The holy gospel according to _____ in the _____ Chapter.

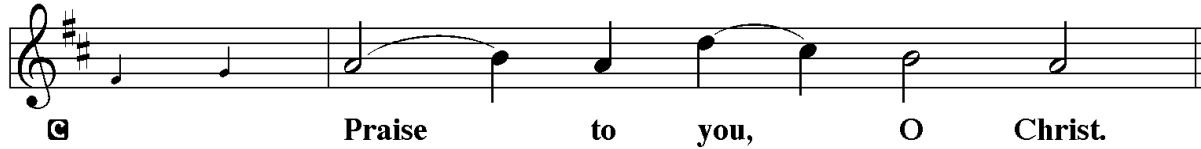


♩ Glo - ry to you, O Lord.

Gospel

(See Insert)

Deacon The gospel of the Lord.



The congregation is seated.

Sermon

Silence for reflection follows the sermon.

Please stand if you are able.

Hymn of the Day *(See Insert)*

*God's word is further proclaimed as we sing and as we confess our faith with the whole church.
After praying for the whole world, we receive and extend to one another the gift of Christ's peace.*

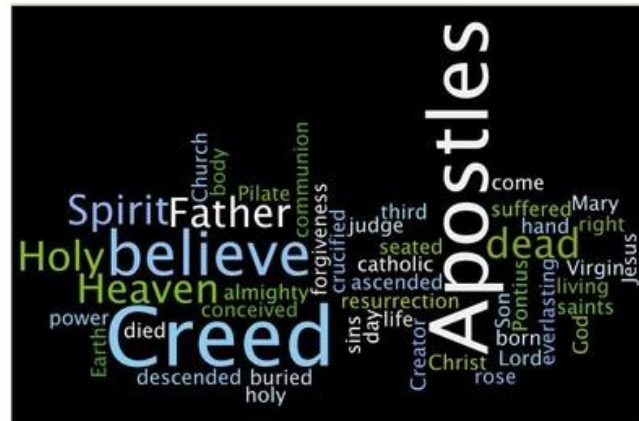


Deacon We express our faith using the words of the Apostles' Creed.

All 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 Christian** church,
the communion of saints,
the forgiveness of sins,
the resurrection of the body,
and the life everlasting. Amen.



**or, "descended into hell."
**or, catholic (universal)*



Prayers of Intercession

A Trusting in God's abundant mercy, let us offer prayers for a world in need.

A brief silence. The assisting minister continues with the petitions, and the congregation responds to each with:

A Lord, in your mercy,

All hear our prayer.

The pastor concludes the prayers with:

Deacon Into your hands, O God, we commend all for whom we pray, trusting in your great mercy, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

All Amen

Sharing of the Peace

Deacon The peace of the Lord be with you always.

All And also with you.

The people may greet one another with a sign of Christ's peace, and may say:

Response Peace be with you.

The congregation is seated.

Announcements



Offering

An offering is gathered and the table is set. During this section of worship, we offer our gifts of time, self, and possessions to the glory of God, and we celebrate the sacrament of the eucharist, where Christ comes to meet us at the table.

Offertory Anthem (See Insert)

As the gifts are brought forward, the congregation stands.

♩ 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.

Offertory Prayer

A Let us pray.

All O Lord our God, maker of all things. Through your goodness you have blessed us with these gifts. With them we offer ourselves to your service and dedicate our lives to the care and redemption of all that you have made, for the sake of him who gave himself for us, Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.


The Great Thanksgiving



P The Lord be with you. **C** And al - so with you.



P Lift up your hearts. **C** We lift them to the Lord.



P Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.




C It is right to give him thanks and praise.


Pastor It is indeed right, our duty, and our joy ... and join their unending hymn:



C Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, Lord God of pow'r and might:



Heav'n and earth are full of your glo - ry.



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.

Deacon

Brothers and Sisters in Christ:

We are gathered together to participate in the holy sacrament of the body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ. Our reception of this blessed meal is made possible by our earlier celebration of Holy Communion at St. John's, when the bread and wine that we are about to receive, were consecrated by Pastor Koenig through word and prayer.

Listen again to the Good News:

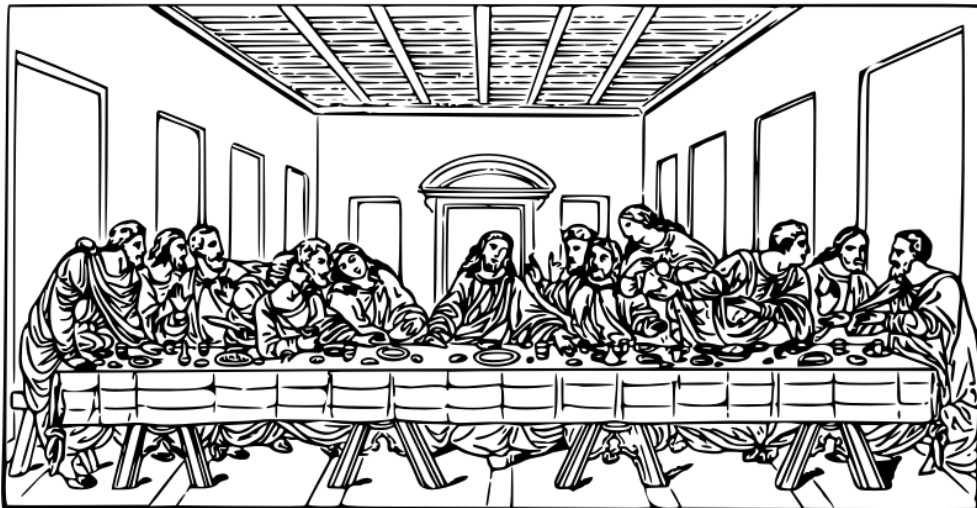
On the night in which he was betrayed, our Lord Jesus took the bread and gave thanks. Then he broke it and gave it to his disciples, saying: Take and eat, this is my body, given for you. Do this in remembrance of me.

After supper, he took the cup and gave thanks. Then he gave it to his disciples, saying: Drink from this, all of you. This is the new covenant in my blood, shed for you and for all people for the forgiveness of sin. Do this in remembrance of me.

In obedience to our Lord Jesus Christ, and with trust in all his promises, we now share in the bread of life and the cup of salvation.

All

Amen.



Deacon Gathered into one by the Holy Spirit, let us boldly pray:

All 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

Deacon Come to the table where all are welcomed home.

Lamb of God



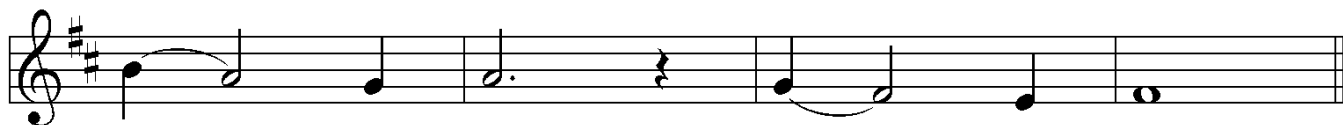
Lamb of God, you take a-way the sin of the world; have mer-cy on us.



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, grant us peace.

Communion Hymns *(See Insert)*

After the Eucharist has been shared by all, the congregation stands.

Table Blessing

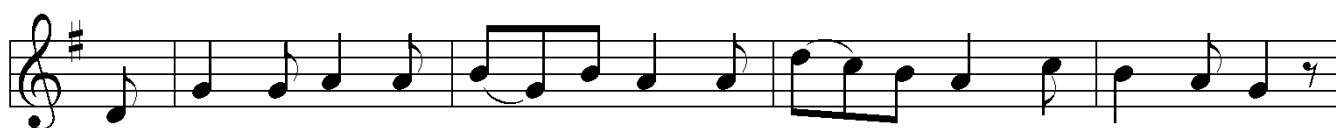
Deacon The body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen you and keep you in his grace.

All Amen.

Post-Communion Canticle



☞ Thank the Lord and sing his praise; tell ev-'ry-one what he has done.



Let ev-'ry-one who seeks the Lord re-joice and proud-ly bear his name.



He re-calls his prom-is-es and leads his peo-ple forth in joy



with shouts of thanks-giv-ing. Al-le-lu-ia. Al-le-lu-ia.

Prayer After Communion

A Let us pray.

God of all creation, all that you have made is good, and your love endures forever. Send your spirit with us now, that we may be united and transformed through the healing power of this gift of life, to serve you more fully by loving our neighbors more deeply.

Through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

All Amen.

SENDING

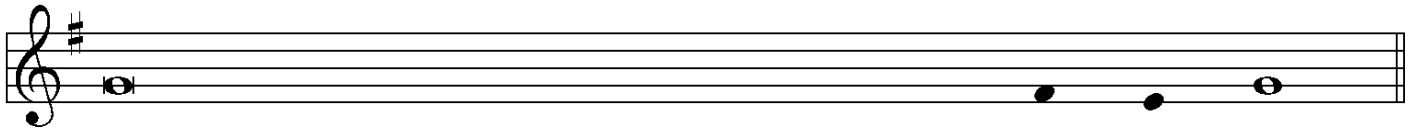
God blesses us and sends us in mission to the world.

The gifts of grace that we share at God's table are now ours to bring to all those in need.

We are sent out to live as Christ's body in our community and throughout the world.

Go in peace!

Benediction



☐ 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.



☐ A - men



Sending Hymn *(See Insert)*

Dismissal

Deacon You are the body of Christ, raised up for the world!
Go in peace! Serve the Lord!

All: Thanks be to God!

Postlude *(See Insert)*



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How to Give to St. John's

Thank you for your gifts! Every dollar you give enhances God's work through the ministries of St. John's. And there are so many ways to give! We recommend electronic methods because they are secure, fast, reliable, and consistent.

It helps us keep up with our budgeting process too.

Currently, one-third of our contributions are from e-giving... We thank you!

E-Giving.....Scan the QR code below and simply follow the prompts!

Text Giving.....Text (844) 914-0367 to make secure recurring or one-time offerings.

A quick-info flyer is available in the kiosks around the church.

Or, contact Jeanne Jones jjones@stjohnselc.org or (845) 452-1550.

*Thank you all for your dedication to the important work
St. John's performs for you and for our community!*

Scan here for Online Giving!



P.S. Have you remembered St. John's in your will? Your planned giving can ensure that St. John's will be a beacon to the community for many generations to come!

ST. JOHN'S LUTHERAN CHURCH

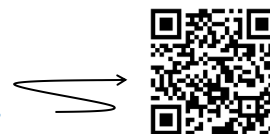
Serving God through the ELCA in the Metropolitan New York Synod

55 Wilbur Boulevard
Poughkeepsie, NY 12603

(845) 452-1550

Fax: (845)-471-5004

Visit Our Website at: www.stjohnselc.org



We're on Facebook too:

"St. John's Evangelical Lutheran Church"

Sunday Worship Schedule

9:00 AM & 10:30 AM

(Contemporary) (Traditional)

Staff Contact Information:

Rev. Jeffrey Koenig	<i>Pastor</i>	revkoenig@stjohnselc.org
Richard Ferolito	<i>Deacon</i>	rferolito@earthlink.net
John Corrie	<i>Director of Music</i>	jcorrie@stjohnselc.org
Jeanne Jones	<i>Director of Lay Ministries</i>	jjones@stjohnselc.org
Jeanne Jones	<i>Contemporary Music Leader</i>	jjones@stjohnselc.org
Alison Schlak	<i>Bookkeeper</i>	aschlak@stjohnselc.org
Rosanne Leigh	<i>Office Assistant</i>	rleigh@stjohnselc.org

When you or someone you know is hospitalized or in need of emergency pastoral care:

During office hours:

- Deacon Rich Ferolito at (914) 489-0848

After hours or on weekends:

- Deacon Rich Ferolito at (914) 489-0848

