

St. John's Lutheran Church (LCMS)
Effingham, Illinois



We welcome you to God's Service in worship at St. John's, and extend a special welcome to all guests and visitors with us.

- Offerings are placed in the boxes at the North and West doors, before or after worship.
- Little Children's Worship bags are available in the Atrium.
- Restrooms are located on the 2nd, 3rd, and 5th floors. Those on the 2nd and 5th floors include diaper-changing stations.
- Visitors are not expected to bring an offering. Our members do so in free response to the Gospel and to finance the extension of God's Kingdom.
- **All worshipers are requested to complete an attendance card. They will be collected by the acolyte after the sermon. Thank you!**
- Share prayer requests using the yellow cards in the pews.

Those Who Serve Us

Each Member of St. John's	The Body of Christ
Rev. Mike Burdick.....	Pastor
Rev. Trey Dille.....	Pastor
Rev. Gary Fortkamp	Visitation Pastor
Mrs. Carrie Collier.....	Preschool Director
Mr. Jamie Lotz	Organist
Joel Wolfe & Hayes Hinton	Acolytes
Mr. Todd Zeigler	6:30pm Elder on Duty
Mr. Greg Perry.....	9:00am Elder on Duty
Mr. Greg Perry (217-821-4958).....	Elder on Duty for November 23 - 29
Chatelain School & Baja School	Our Schools for feeding in Haiti
Ms. Janet Martins	(773-463-0617) Stephen Ministry Leader
Mrs. Julie Scott	(217-343-3047) Prayer Partner Coordinator
State, National & International Missions	through our District and Synod

Day of Natonal Thanksgiving

November 27, 2025

6:30pm Thanksgiving Eve

9:00am Thanksgiving Day

Prelude

As We Gather

Did you give thanks for your last meal? Most people—even Christians—often “forget” to give thanks. When we do not give thanks, we are like the rich fool of the parable, thinking it was his work that brought the grain, when in fact it was God who gave it to Him. When we do not give thanks, we become fools, forgetting who gave us what we have and all we are. Have you been foolish? That is what Jesus calls the rich man. Give thanks always—that is the advice of Paul. Above all, give thanks for the cross and the empty tomb, which opens heaven to us.



ORDER OF SERVICE

Prelude

Call to Worship

Welcome

Hymn #892

Come, Ye Thankful People, Come

sts. 1–3

Invocation

Matthew 28:19b; 18:20

P In the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit.

C **Amen.**

Opening Sentences

Psalm 136:1–4

P Give thanks to the LORD, for He is good,

C **for His steadfast love endures forever.**

P Give thanks to the God of gods,

C **for His steadfast love endures forever.**

P Give thanks to the Lord of lords,

C for His steadfast love endures forever;

P to Him who alone does great wonders,

C for His steadfast love endures forever.

Confession and Absolution

Psalm 14:1; Romans 3:12; Psalm 136:1

P The fool says in his heart,

C **“There is no God.” They are corrupt, they do abominable deeds, there is none who does good.**

P We want to think it is other people David refers to in this verse. Yet Paul puts us all in the same category when he writes to the Romans,

C **“All have turned aside; together they have become worthless; no one does good, not even one.” Forgive us, Lord, for the sins we have committed in thought, word, and deed. We deserve Your punishment, both now and for eternity.**

Silence for reflection

P I have the best news for you as we celebrate and give thanks to God for all He has done this year. He has given us the greatest blessing to be thankful for today—the forgiveness of all our sins. As a called and ordained servant of Christ, I forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit.

C **“Give thanks to the Lord, for He is good, for His steadfast love endures forever.” Amen.**

Introit

Psalm 104:24, 27–28, 30; antiphon: v. 33

P I will sing to the LORD as long as I live;

C **I will sing praise to my God while I have being.**

P O LORD, how manifold are Your works! In wisdom have You made them all;

C **the earth is full of Your creatures.**

P These all look to You,

C **to give them their food in due season.**

P When You give it to them, they gather it up;

C **when You open Your hand, they are filled with good things.**

P When You send forth Your Spirit, they are created,

C **and You renew the face of the ground. Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit; as it was in the beginning, is now, and will be forever. Amen.**

P I will sing to the LORD as long as I live;

C **I will sing praise to my God while I have being.**

Reprise: Hymn #892

Come, Ye Thankful People, Come st. 4

- 4 **Even so, Lord, quickly come
To Thy final harvest home;
Gather Thou Thy people in,
Free from sorrow, free from sin,
There, forever purified,
In Thy garner to abide:
Come with all Thine angels, come,
Raise the glorious harvest home.**

Salutation and Prayer of the Day

P The Lord be with you.

C **And also with you.**

P Let us pray. Almighty God, You crown the fields with Your blessing and permit us to gather the fruits of the earth. As stewards of Your creation, grant that we receive Your gifts in humble thankfulness and share Your bounty with those in need; through Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C **Amen.**

Old Testament Reading

Deuteronomy 26:1–11

¹“When you come into the land that the LORD your God is giving you for an inheritance and have taken possession of it and live in it, ²you shall take some of the first of all the fruit of the ground, which you harvest from your land that the LORD your God is giving you, and you shall put it in a basket, and you shall go to the place that the LORD your God will choose, to make his name to dwell there. ³And you shall go to the priest who is in office at that time and say to him, ‘I declare today to the LORD your God that I have come into the land that the LORD swore to our fathers to give us.’ ⁴Then the priest shall take the basket from your hand and set it down before the altar of the LORD your God.

⁵“And you shall make response before the LORD your God, ‘A wandering Aramean was my father. And he went down into Egypt and sojourned there, few in number, and there he became a nation, great, mighty, and populous. ⁶And the Egyptians treated us harshly and humiliated us and laid on us hard labor. ⁷Then we cried to the LORD, the God of our fathers, and the LORD heard our voice and saw our affliction, our toil, and our oppression. ⁸And the LORD brought us out of Egypt with a mighty hand and an outstretched arm, with great deeds of terror, with signs and wonders. ⁹And he brought us into this place and gave us this land, a land flowing with milk and honey. ¹⁰And behold, now I bring the first of the fruit of the ground, which you, O LORD, have given me.’ And you shall set it down before the LORD your God and worship before the LORD your God. ¹¹And you shall rejoice in all the good that the LORD your God has given to you and to your house, you, and the Levite, and the sojourner who is among you.”

P This is the Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

Hymn #814

O Bless the Lord, My Soul

Psalm

Psalm 65

P Praise is due to You, O God, in Zion, and to You shall vows be performed.

C **O You who hears prayer, to You shall all flesh come.**

P When iniquities prevail against me, You atone for our transgressions.

C **Blessed is the one You choose and bring near, to dwell in Your courts!**

P We shall be satisfied with the goodness of Your house, the holiness of Your temple!

C **By awesome deeds You answer us with righteousness, O God of our salvation, the hope of all the ends of the earth and of the farthest seas;**

P the one who by His strength established the mountains, being girded with might; who stills the roaring of the seas, the roaring of their waves, the tumult of the peoples,

C **so that those who dwell at the ends of the earth are in awe at Your signs.**

P You make the going out of the morning and the evening to shout for joy.

C **You visit the earth and water it; You greatly enrich it; the river of God is full of water; You provide their grain, for so You have prepared it.**

P You water its furrows abundantly, settling its ridges, softening it with showers, and blessing its growth.

C **You crown the year with Your bounty; Your wagon tracks overflow with abundance.**

P The pastures of the wilderness overflow, the hills gird themselves with joy, the meadows clothe themselves with flocks,

C **the valleys deck themselves with grain, they shout and sing together for joy. Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit; as it was in the beginning, is now, and will be forever. Amen.**

Epistle

2 Corinthians 9:6–15

⁶The point is this: whoever sows sparingly will also reap sparingly, and whoever sows bountifully will also reap bountifully. ⁷Each one must give as he has made up his mind, not reluctantly or under compulsion, for God loves a cheerful giver. ⁸And God is able to make all grace abound to you, so that having all sufficiency in all things at all times, you may abound in every good work. ⁹As it is written,

“He has distributed freely, he has given to the poor;
his righteousness endures forever.”

¹⁰He who supplies seed to the sower and bread for food will supply and multiply your seed for sowing and increase the harvest of your righteousness. ¹¹You will be enriched in every way for all your generosity, which through us will produce thanksgiving to God. ¹²For the ministry of this service is not only supplying the needs of the saints, but is also overflowing in many thanksgivings to God. ¹³By their approval of this service, they will glorify God because of your submission flowing from your confession of the gospel of Christ, and the generosity of your contribution for them and for all others, ¹⁴while they long for you and pray for you, because of the surpassing grace of God upon you. ¹⁵Thanks be to God for his inexpressible gift!

P This is the Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

Hymn #894

For the Fruits of His Creation

Verse

1 Thessalonians 5:18

P Alleluia. Give thanks in all circumstances;

C for this is the will of God in Christ Jesus for you. Alleluia.

Holy Gospel

Luke 12:13–21

P The Holy Gospel according to St. Luke, the twelfth chapter.

C Glory to You, O Lord.

¹³Someone in the crowd said to [Jesus], “Teacher, tell my brother to divide the inheritance with me.” ¹⁴But he said to him, “Man, who made me a judge or arbitrator over you?” ¹⁵And he said to them, “Take care, and be on your guard against all covetousness, for one’s life does not consist in the abundance of his possessions.” ¹⁶And he told them a parable, saying, “The land of a rich man produced plentifully, ¹⁷and he thought to himself, ‘What shall I do, for I have nowhere to store my crops?’ ¹⁸And he said, ‘I will do this: I will tear down my barns and build larger ones, and there I will store all my grain and my goods. ¹⁹And I will say to my soul, Soul, you have ample goods laid up for many years; relax, eat, drink, be merry.’ ²⁰But God said to him, ‘Fool! This night your soul is required of you, and the things you have prepared, whose will they be?’ ²¹So is the one who lays up treasure for himself and is not rich toward God.”

P This is the Gospel of the Lord.

C Praise to You, O Christ.

Hymn #893

Sing to the Lord of Harvest

Sermon

“God’s Two Helpings”

Deut. 8:1-10

Creed

Nicene Creed

C I believe in one God, the Father Almighty, maker of heaven and earth and of all things visible and invisible.

And in one Lord Jesus Christ, the only-begotten Son of God, begotten of His Father before all worlds, God of God, Light of Light, very God of very God, begotten, not made, being of one substance with the Father, by whom all things were made; who for us men and for our salvation came down from heaven and was incarnate by the Holy Spirit of the virgin Mary and was made man; and was crucified also for us under Pontius Pilate. He suffered and was buried. And the third day He rose again according to the Scriptures and ascended into heaven and sits at the right hand of the Father. And He will come again with glory to judge both the living and the dead, whose kingdom will have no end.

And I believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord and giver of life, who proceeds from the Father and the Son, who with the Father and the Son together is worshiped and glorified, who spoke by the prophets. And I believe in one holy Christian and apostolic Church, I acknowledge one Baptism for the remission of sins, and I look for the resurrection of the dead and the life of the world to come. Amen.

Offering Presentation & Card Collection

Prayer of the Church

Lord’s Prayer

C 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.

Benediction

Hymn #895

Now Thank We All Our God

Postlude

Acknowledgments

Unless otherwise indicated, Scripture quotations are from the ESV® Bible (The Holy Bible, English Standard Version®), copyright © 2001 by Crossway, a publishing ministry of Good News Publishers. Used by permission. All rights reserved. Created by Lutheran Service Builder © 2025 Concordia Publishing House. Creative Worship for the Lutheran Parish, Series C, Quarter 4. Copyright © 2025 Concordia Publishing House. All rights reserved. Used by permission.