

November 16, 2025 | 9:30 am  
TWENTY-THIRD SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

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As children of God and disciples of Christ seeking peace and justice in the world, we welcome, affirm, and include all people into the fullness of God's love. We celebrate and lift up people of all races, cultures, ages, sexual orientations, gender identities, physical or mental abilities, economic statuses, political affiliation, appearances, family status, and citizenship as equally loved and valued in the eyes of God and in this place. All are invited to join this community as we worship God, grow in faith, and strive to love and serve one another.

All, without exception, are welcome in this place.



ST. JOHN'S EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH BOYERTOWN

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AUTHENTIC WORSHIP † INTENTIONAL RELATIONSHIPS † SACRIFICIAL SERVICE † RADICAL GENEROSITY

# CORE VALUES

**AUTHENTIC  
WORSHIP**



**INTENTIONAL  
RELATIONSHIPS**



**SACRIFICIAL  
SERVICE**



**RADICAL  
GENEROSITY**



ST. JOHN'S EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH, BOYERTOWN

## BAPTISMAL PROMISE

### GIFTS OF DISCIPLESHIP



**LIVE**

among God's faithful people



**HEAR**

the word of God



**SHARE**

in the Lord's Supper



**PROCLAIM**

the good news of God in Christ  
through word and deed



**SERVE**

all people, following the example of Jesus



**STRIVE**

for justice and peace in all the earth

# WELCOME

You are a blessing to us, and we're glad you're here today!

## NEW HERE?

Please do not feel obligated to contribute an offering - you are our guest! Rather, please ask an usher for a Let's Get Acquainted card and drop it in the offering plate.

Restrooms are located on the same level as the sanctuary. Exit the back of the sanctuary, turn left into Parish House, turn left again at ramp and continue midway down hallway. Restrooms are on the right.

Gluten-free communion wafers and grape juice are available at the center aisle.

## WHERE DO MY KIDS GO?

Children are always welcome to worship. Sunday School is offered for children ages 3 through 6th grade. Families are encouraged to begin worship together at 9:30 in the Sanctuary. Children are dismissed from worship and escorted to their classroom, located on the second floor of the Parish House. Children are released to parents at worship conclusion, approximately 10:30 am.

## PRAYER REQUESTS

The importance of prayer is affirmed throughout the Bible. As a church we are committed to pray - your needs are important to us. Prayer request cards can be obtained from an usher and may be filled out and dropped in the offering plate.

## GATHERING TIMES

Sunday | 9:30 am | Sanctuary  
**Worship Celebration with Holy Communion**  
**Livestream on YouTube (St John's ELC Boyertown)**

Thursday | 8:00 pm  
**Service Broadcast on Comcast Channel 98**

## GET CONNECTED

Connect with God, each other and our community! Follow us on Facebook, YouTube and Instagram!



## SERVING IN WORSHIP

<b>Acolyte</b>	Delaney Hersperger	<b>Media</b>	Jason Friz
<b>Altar Assistants</b>	Bonnie Moatz, Mel Roth	<b>Musician</b>	Sam Kulp
<b>Altar Guild</b>	Mary Dierolf, Nancy Edwards	<b>Prayers</b>	Susan & Andy Varzally
<b>Assisting Minister</b>	Mel Roth	<b>Sound</b>	Ashley Gheer
<b>Lector</b>	Dave Babb	<b>Video</b>	Camryn Friz
<b>Ushers</b>	Becky & Barry Erb, Mary Kay & Donnie Heimbach		

**Flowers given in loving memory of Dona's mother, Charlotte Landis,  
on the anniversary of her 108<sup>th</sup> birthday by Fred and Dona Brown.**



## Twenty-Third Sunday after Pentecost

The end is near. There is no doubt about it. The warnings are dire. The tone of today's texts is ominous. But the baptized know how to live in the meantime. The baptized are strengthened for the living of these days in word and sacrament. The baptized rally around the invitation of the apostle: "Do not be weary in doing what is right."

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### PRELUDE

### VIDEO

### WELCOME

### CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

*The congregation may stand.*

Blessed be the holy Trinity, one God, who forgives all our sin, whose mercy endures forever.  
**Amen.**

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

Faithful God, **you have shown us the ways of your heart, yet we stray from your paths. We are stuck in sinful systems of oppression and do not embrace the freedom of your faithful promises. We ignore our neighbors. We exploit the earth. We reject your abundance, trusting our impulses instead of your steadfast love. Repair our relationships, restore what we have broken, renew our hearts, and bring us to new life. Amen.**

Hear the good news: God the Faithful One loves you, in Christ Jesus your sins are forgiven, and by the power of the Holy Spirit you are set free. **Amen.**

*God's love is the strongest bond we have in our lives. We can always count on the Lord to love, nurture, and guide us.  
His grace rules over all things. If we were to be left with nothing, God's presence and love would remain.*



- 1 My hope is built on noth-ing less than Je-sus' blood and righ-teous-ness;
- 2 When dark-ness veils his love-ly face, I rest on his un - chang-ing grace;
- 3 His oath, his cov - e - nant, his blood sus - tain me in the rag - ing flood;
- 4 When he shall come with trum-pet sound, oh, may I then in him be found,



no mer-it of my own I claim, but whol - ly lean on Je - sus' name.  
in ev-'ry high and storm - y gale my an - chor holds with-in the veil.  
when all sup-ports are washed a-way, he then is all my hope and stay.  
clothed in his righ-teous-ness a-lone, re - deemed to stand be - fore the throne!

*Refrain*



On Christ, the sol - id rock, I stand; all oth - er ground is



sink - ing sand, all oth - er ground is sink - ing sand.

Text: Edward Mote, 1797–1874, alt.  
Music: THE SOLID ROCK, William B. Bradbury, 1816–1868

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.**

### PRAYER OF THE DAY

Let us pray.

**O God, the protector of all who trust in you, without you nothing is strong, nothing is holy. Embrace us with your mercy, that with you as our ruler and guide, we may live through what is temporary without losing what is eternal, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.**

## Change My Heart, O God

*Refrain*



Change my heart, O God; make it ev - er true.

*End*



Change my heart, O God; may I be like you.



You are the pot - ter; I am the clay.



*Refrain*

Mold me and make me; this is what I pray.

Text: Eddie Espinosa, b. 1953  
Music: CHANGE MY HEART, Eddie Espinosa  
Text and music © 1982 Mercy/Vineyard Publishing, admin. Music Services

*Children are dismissed to Sunday School.*

*The congregation may be seated.*

### FIRST READING

### Malachi 4:1-2a

*Malachi, whose name means “my messenger,” warns that “the day is coming.” On that day, the evil will be destroyed like stubble in a fire, but the “sun of righteousness” will shine on those who honor God.*

<sup>1</sup>See, the day is coming, burning like an oven, when all the arrogant and all evildoers will be stubble; the day that comes shall burn them up, says the LORD of hosts, so that it will leave them neither root nor branch. <sup>2a</sup>But for you who revere my name the sun of righteousness shall rise, with healing in its wings.

The word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

### SECOND READING

### 2 Thessalonians 3:6-13

*Some members of the Thessalonian community, because of their belief in the nearness of Christ’s return, had ceased to work, living off the generosity of other members of the community. The writer of this letter warns them bluntly that if they want to eat, they need to work.*

<sup>6</sup>Now we command you, beloved, in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ, to keep away from believers who are living in idleness and not according to the tradition that they received from us. <sup>7</sup>For you yourselves know how you ought to imitate us; we were not idle when we were with you, <sup>8</sup>and we did not eat anyone’s bread without paying for it; but with toil and labor we worked

night and day, so that we might not burden any of you. <sup>9</sup> This was not because we do not have that right, but in order to give you an example to imitate. <sup>10</sup> For even when we were with you, we gave you this command: Anyone unwilling to work should not eat. <sup>11</sup> For we hear that some of you are living in idleness, mere busybodies, not doing any work. <sup>12</sup> Now such persons we command and exhort in the Lord Jesus Christ to do their work quietly and to earn their own living. <sup>13</sup> Brothers and sisters, do not be weary in doing what is right.

The word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

*The congregation may stand.*

## **GOSPEL ACCLAMATION**

Alleluia, alleluia,  
Lord, to whom shall we go?  
You have the words of eternal life.  
Alleluia!

## **GOSPEL READING**

**Luke 21:5-19**

The Holy Gospel according to St. Luke. **Glory to you, O Lord.**

*As history moves toward God's fulfillment there will be frightening signs and events. Before the end, believers will draw strength from their relationship to God and will be given the words they need to testify and to endure without fear.*

<sup>5</sup> When some were speaking about the temple, how it was adorned with beautiful stones and gifts dedicated to God, [Jesus] said, <sup>6</sup> "As for these things that you see, the days will come when not one stone will be left upon another; all will be thrown down." <sup>7</sup> They asked him, "Teacher, when will this be, and what will be the sign that this is about to take place?" <sup>8</sup> And he said, "Beware that you are not led astray; for many will come in my name and say, 'I am he!' and, 'The time is near!' Do not go after them. <sup>9</sup> "When you hear of wars and insurrections, do not be terrified; for these things must take place first, but the end will not follow immediately." <sup>10</sup> Then he said to them, "Nation will rise against nation, and kingdom against kingdom; <sup>11</sup> there will be great earthquakes, and in various places famines and plagues; and there will be dreadful portents and great signs from heaven. <sup>12</sup> "But before all this occurs, they will arrest you and persecute you; they will hand you over to synagogues and prisons, and you will be brought before kings and governors because of my name. <sup>13</sup> This will give you an opportunity to testify. <sup>14</sup> So make up your minds not to prepare your defense in advance; <sup>15</sup> for I will give you words and a wisdom that none of your opponents will be able to withstand or contradict. <sup>16</sup> You will be betrayed even by parents and brothers, by relatives and friends; and they will put some of you to death. <sup>17</sup> You will be hated by all because

of my name.<sup>18</sup> But not a hair of your head will perish.<sup>19</sup> By your endurance you will gain your souls.”

The gospel of our Lord. **Praise to you, O Christ.**

*The congregation may be seated.*

## SERMON

**Pastor Bob Machamer**

*The congregation may stand.*

## HYMN OF THE DAY

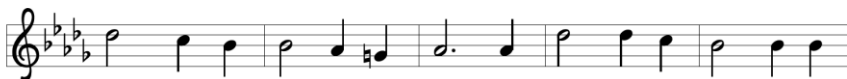
### When Peace like a River

**ELW 785**

*Though we all face our own battles, we are met with peace when we pray to our Lord Jesus. He brings peace and calmness to our lives like a river flowing endlessly and abundantly. When we trust in the Lord, we are no longer alone in our troubles.*



1 When peace like a riv - er at - tend - eth my way, when  
2 Though Sa - tan should buf - fet, though tri - als should come, let  
3 He lives—oh, the bliss of this glo - ri - ous thought; my  
4 Lord, has - ten the day when our faith shall be sight, the



sor - rows like sea bil - lows roll, what - ev - er my lot, thou hast  
this blest as - sur - ance con - trol, that Christ hath re - gard - ed my  
sin, not in part, but the whole, is nailed to his cross and I  
clouds be rolled back as a scroll, the trum - pet shall sound and the



taught me to say, it is well, it is well with my soul.  
help - less es - tate, and hath shed his own blood for my soul.  
bear it no more. Praise the Lord, praise the Lord, O my soul!  
Lord shall de - scend; e - ven so it is well with my soul.



It is well with my soul, it is well, it is well with my soul.



## THE APOSTLES' CREED

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.

## PRAYER PETITION

**Lord, Listen to Your Children Praying**

**ELW 752**

*Sung through twice.*



Lord, lis-ten to your chil-dren pray-ing, Lord, send your Spir-it in this place;



Lord, lis-ten to your chil-dren pray-ing, send us love, send us pow'r, send us grace.

Text: Ken Medema, b. 1943

Music: CHILDREN PRAYING, Ken Medema

Text and music © 1973 Hope Publishing Company, Carol Stream, IL 60188. All rights reserved. Used by permission.

*The congregation may kneel.*

## **PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION**

*During this time of prayer, you are encouraged to meditate fully  
on the prayers offered by the reader.*

*Prayer response:*

Hear us, O God. **Your mercy is great.**

*The congregation may be seated.*

## **OFFERING MUSIC**

*The congregation may stand.*

## **OFFERING PRAYER**

God of healing and hope, you bless those who are hungry, promising to fill them with good things. Fulfill that promise through us and these your gifts. Nourish us with the abundance of your feast and unite us into the blessed body of Jesus Christ our Savior, now and forever. **Amen.**

## **COMMUNION MUSIC**

### **The Table**

### **Chris Tomlin**

I will feast at the table of the Lord.

I will feast at the table of the Lord.

I won't hunger anymore at His table.

Come all you weary, come and find

His yoke is easy, His burden light.

He is able; He will restore at the table of the Lord.

## **WORDS OF INSTITUTION**

On the night of his betrayal  
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.

**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 sins, as we forgive those who sin 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**

There is a place for you at the table of God. Come, receive the food that does not perish, a taste of life eternal.

*The congregation may be seated.*

### **DISTRIBUTION OF THE SACRAMENT**

*All without exception, are welcome at the table of God's grace and love. Please fill out a communion card and hand to an usher or place in the box at back of sanctuary. Today we receive the sacrament at the altar rail. Please come forward at the direction of the ushers. Gluten-free wafers and grape juice are available at the center aisle. Return to your seats by the side aisle. If you are unable to come forward for communion, please let an usher know and communion can be brought to you.*

*The congregation may stand.*

### **BLESSING**

The body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen you and keep you in his grace, in the name of the Father, Son, and Holy Spirit. **Amen.**

### **POST-COMMUNION PRAYER**

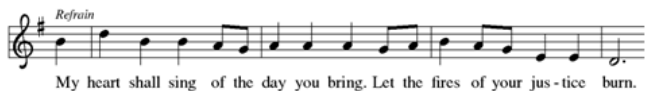
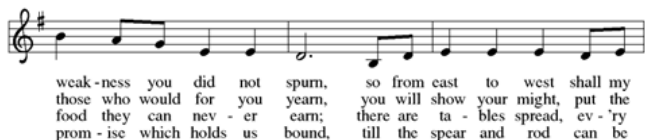
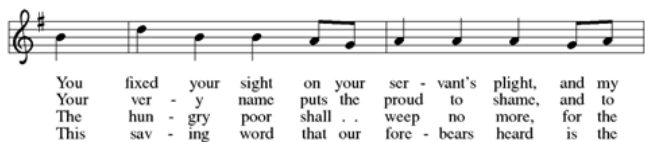
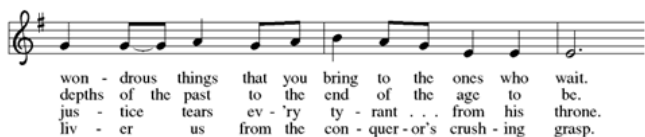
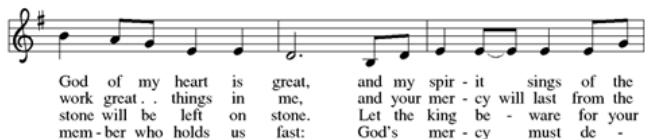
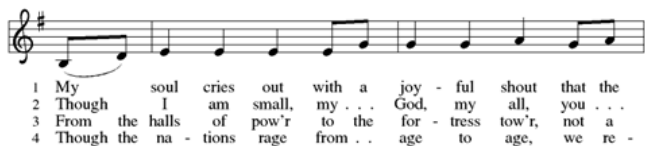
God of field and flower, wheat and grape, you have nourished us with the bread of heaven that gives life to the world. Strengthened by the body and blood of your Son, send us out to gather your good gifts for all who hunger and thirst, and embolden us to love and serve in Christ's name. Amen.

### **BENEDICTION**

The love of God the Sovereign strengthen you, God the Son save you, and God the Holy Spirit anoint you for the work ahead. The holy Trinity bless you and grant you a faithful and courageous heart now and forever. **Amen.**

*This hymn reminds us that Jesus answers our prayers.*

*It may not be in the ways we expect, but He ultimately guides us to the right answer. Jesus tends to the ones who are in need and breaks down all hierarchies and barriers which divide us.*



## **DISMISSAL**

Go in peace. Share the harvest. **Thanks be to God.**

## **POSTLUDE**

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**GUESTS** are always welcome to the Table!

**MEMBERS** (*two types*)  
Voting & Non-voting

### **KEEPING MEMBERSHIP SIMPLE**

1. The only way you can ever be removed from the membership roll at St. John's, or any ELCA congregation:
  - You request a transfer
  - You ask to be removed
  - You depart this life
2. Voting members must make a record of having:
  - Filled out a communion card and received the Lord's Supper ONE time per year
  - Contributed ONE time per year, making sure your name is included



# Annual Meeting December 7

immediately following worship

The agenda consists of the following items:

- accept the reports of the church
- present and approve the budget (Ministry Action Plan) for the next calendar year
- elect members to the Congregation Council



ST. JOHN'S LUTHERAN CHURCH  
WELCOMES

# OLEY HIGH SCHOOL CHOIR

SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 23 9 : 30 AM

Greet the choir after worship on November 23  
at Coffee & Conversation in the Lower Level.

## THIS WEEK AT ST. JOHN'S

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### SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 16 – Twenty-Third Sunday after Pentecost

#### Preschool - Preston's Pantry Food Drive running all of November

9:30 AM	Worship Celebration	Sanctuary
9:30 AM	Sunday School	Parish House 2 <sup>nd</sup> floor
6:30 PM	Girl Scout Service Unit Leaders	Lower Level

### MONDAY, NOVEMBER 17

10:00 AM	Yoga Class	Room 205
6:30 PM	Girl Scouts	Fellowship Hall

### TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 18

6:30 PM	Finance Team	Main Office
6:30 PM	Building a Better Boyertown	Lower Level

### WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 19

	Preschool Chapel Time	Recreation Room
9:30 AM	Pottstown Soup Kitchen	Off-site
10:00 AM	Yoga Class	Room 205
6:30 PM	Congregation Council & MAP	Lower Level

### THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 20

9:30 AM	Community Leaders	Conference Room
10:00 AM	Chestnut Knoll Service	Chestnut Knoll
6:30 PM	The Chosen – Season 2 Small Group	Conference Room
8:00 PM	Worship Broadcast	Comcast Ch 98

### FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 21

7:00 AM	Men's Small Group Bible Study	Telephone Conference
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### SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 22

4:30 PM	Come to the Table	Fellowship Hall/Parking Lot
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### SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 23 – Christ the King

9:30 AM	Worship Celebration	Sanctuary
9:30 AM	Sunday School	Parish House 2 <sup>nd</sup> floor
10:45 AM	Coffee & Conversation	Lower Level

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## PURPOSE STATEMENT

We believe God's purpose for the people of St. John's Evangelical Lutheran Church is to develop joy-filled children of God who love the Lord and share God's Word.

*We do this by:*

- Maintaining a trusting and welcoming environment.
- Praying daily.
- Reading scripture regularly.
- Sharing our faith through action-based service.
- Encouraging holy conversations.
- Feeding our faith with music.

*With a focus on:*

- Activities that build relationships.
- Worship that is relevant.
- Meeting the needs of the vulnerable in our community.

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Pastor Bob Machamer

[bmachamer@stjohnsboyertown.org](mailto:bmachamer@stjohnsboyertown.org)

Bethany Calderwood, Director of Preschool Ministry

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Office Hours | Monday-Thursday 8:30am - 3:30pm | Friday 8:30am - 12:00pm