

Last Sunday of the Church Year November 23, 2025





Saint John's Evangelical Lutheran Church 48 Greene Avenue Sayville, New York 11782

SUNDAY 9:30 AM

Welcome to Saint John's Evangelical Lutheran Church

Rejoice in God's grace. Live as disciples. Love one another.

Our Purpose

The family of St. John's Evangelical Lutheran Church, gathered around Word and Sacrament, enhanced by liturgy and music, exists to encourage its members in a life of discipleship in Christ Jesus and fellowship with one another.

Utilizing the gifts that God has entrusted to us, we engage in acts of mercy, attending to the spiritual and physical needs within our congregation and community.

We bear witness to the Grace of God through living in His Word thus demonstrating the love Christ has shown us.

To Those Visiting with Us Today

We welcome you among us as we gather in God's presence to receive his benefits towards us. If this is your first time visiting, please introduce yourself to the Pastor on the way out. We pray God's blessings upon you in this time, and invite you to continue to join us in the future. Please contact the Pastor if you have any needs or questions about St. John's and the work for which he has called us.

A Guide to the Symbols in the Service

P = Pastor; **L** = Lector; **C** = Congregation

Anywhere the symbol + appears, the sign of the cross may be made by all in remembrance of their Baptism. Please move in and out of the sanctuary at places marked with an asterisk (*).

As We Gather

Everyone in the parable today had been invited to the wedding party, but not all were ready when it was time to go. Five were wise, and five were foolish, and as a result, the foolish ones missed out on the fun. Our heavenly bridegroom, Jesus Christ, is coming for us at a time that we do not know. And when he arrives, he bids us to be ready. In the gifts of his grace, the lamps of our lives remain burning, even for great periods of time, until he does come to bring us out of death to life. In Christ, we are always ready, and anticipating, his return in glory to bring his holy people home to heaven.

Today in the Church Year

The season after Trinity is a time of growth. Just as the world around us is turning greener and greener as the warm days yield nature's bounty, so in the Church does the seed planted of God's Word yield its bounty in lives of faith. Throughout this season, we will hear of the teachings and miracles of Jesus. By the grace of God in His Spirit, we shall be encouraged by the work our Lord has done for us, and sent out to live lives of faith, mercy, and love. The green on the altar during this long season reminds us of the growth which the Lord provides through His Word and Sacraments. In our receiving of those gifts, we grow more and more into the likeness of Christ until that glorious day when we shall see him face to face!

H IN NOMINE JESU - IN THE NAME OF JESUS H

A Prayer upon Entering Church

Almighty God, your Holy Spirit equips the church with a rich variety of gifts. Grant that we may use them to bear witness to Christ in lives that are built on faith and love. Make us ready to live the gospel and eager to do your will, so that we may share with all your church in the joys of eternal life; through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.

Opening Voluntary: Wake, Awake, for Night is Flying
I Want to Walk as a Child of the Light

Wayne L. Wold John A. Behnke

Announcements & Sharing of the Peace

Opening Hymn: Rejoice, Rejoice, Believers

LSB 515

Tune: HAF TRONES LAMPA FARDIG

Invocation, Confession and Absolution (Matt. 28:19b)

The sign of the cross may be made by all in remembrance of their Baptism.

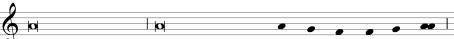
- **P** In the name of the Father and of the

 → Son and of the Holy Spirit.
- C Amen.
- **P** If we say we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us.
- But if we confess our sins, God, who is faithful and just, will forgive our sins and cleanse us from all unrighteousness. (1 John 1:8-9)

Silence for reflection on God's Word and for self-examination.

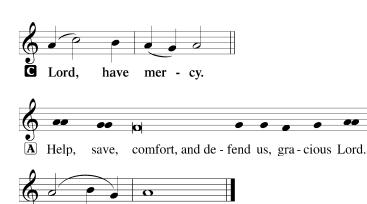
- **P** Let us then confess our sins to God our Father.
- Most merciful God, we confess that we are by nature sinful and unclean. We have sinned against You in thought, word, and deed, by what we have done and by what we have left undone. We have not loved You with our whole heart; we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. We justly deserve Your present and eternal punishment. 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.
- Almighty God in His mercy has given His Son to die for you and for His sake forgives you all your sins. As a called and ordained servant of Christ, and by His authority, I therefore forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the H Son and of the Holy Spirit.
- C Amen.

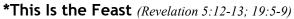




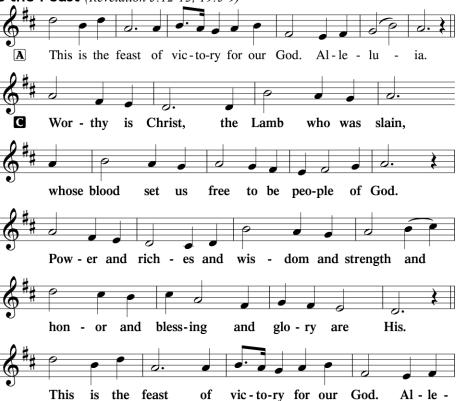
A For this holy house and for all who offer here their wor-ship and praise







men.





Salutation and Collect of the Day (2 Timothy 4:22)

- **P** The Lord be with you.
- C And also with you.
- Let us pray...O Lord, absolve Your people from their offenses that, from the bonds of our sins which by reason of our frailty we have brought upon ourselves, we may be delivered by Your bountiful goodness; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.
- C Amen.

Old Testament Reading

L The Old Testament Reading for the Last Sunday of the Church Year is taken from Isaiah, the sixty-fifth chapter.

¹⁷ "Behold, I create new heavens and a new earth. and the former things shall not be remembered or come into mind. ¹⁸But be glad and rejoice forever in that which I create; for behold, I create Jerusalem to be a joy, and her people to be a gladness. ¹⁹I will rejoice in Jerusalem and be glad in my people: no more shall be heard in it the sound of weeping and the cry of distress. ²⁰No more shall there be in it an infant who lives but a few days, or an old man who does not fill out his days, for the young man shall die a hundred years old, and the sinner a hundred years old shall be accursed. ²¹They shall build houses and inhabit them; they shall plant vineyards and eat their fruit. ²²Thev shall not build and another inhabit; they shall not plant and another eat; for like the days of a tree shall the days of my people be, and my chosen shall long enjoy the work of their hands. ²³They shall not labor in vain or bear children for calamity. for they shall be the offspring of the blessed of the LORD, and their descendants with them. ²⁴Before they call I will answer; while they are yet speaking I will hear. ²⁵The wolf and the lamb shall graze together: the lion shall eat straw like the ox. and dust shall be the serpent's food. They shall not hurt or destroy

in all my holy mountain," says the LORD.

- **L** This is the Word of the Lord.
- **C** Thanks be to God.

***Psalm 149** (Cantor sings antiphon, the Congregation repeats the antiphon and sings the bolded verses and antiphon as indicated)



- ¹ Praise the LORD! Sing to the | <u>LORD a</u> new song,* his praise in the as- | <u>sembly of the godly!</u>
- ² Let Israel be | <u>glad in</u> his Maker;* let the children of Zion re- | <u>joice in</u> their King!
- ³ Let them praise his | name with dancing,* making melody to him with | tambourine and lyre!
- ⁴ For the LORD takes | <u>pleasure in his people</u>;* he adorns the | humble with salvation. Antiphon
- ⁵ Let the godly ex- | ult in glory;* let them sing for | <u>ioy on</u> their beds.
- ⁶ Let the high praises of God be | in their throats* and two-edged | <u>swords in</u> their hands,
- ⁷ to execute | <u>vengeance on</u> the nations* and | <u>punishments on</u> the peoples,
- 8 to bind their | kings with chains* and their nobles with | <u>fetters</u> of iron,
- +9 to execute on them the | judgment written!*

 This is honor for all his godly ones. | Praise the LORD!

Glory be to the Father and | to the Son* and to the Holy | Spïrit; as it was in the be- | gïnning,* is now, and will be forever. | Ämen.

Antiphon

Epistle 1 Thessalonians 5:1–11

L The Epistle is from First Thessalonians, the fifth chapter.

¹Now concerning the times and the seasons, brothers, you have no need to have anything written to you. ²For you yourselves are fully aware that the day of the Lord will come like a thief in the night. ³While people are saying, "There is peace and security," then sudden destruction will come upon them as labor pains come upon a pregnant woman, and they will not escape. ⁴But you are not in darkness, brothers, for that day to surprise you like a thief. ⁵For you are all children of light, children of the day. We are not of the night or of the darkness. ⁶So then let us not sleep, as others do, but let us keep awake and be sober. ⁷For those who sleep, sleep at night, and those who get drunk, are drunk at night. ⁸But since we belong to the day, let us be sober, having put on the breastplate of faith and love, and for a helmet the hope of salvation. ⁹For God has not destined us for wrath, but to obtain salvation through our Lord Jesus Christ, ¹⁰who died for us so that whether we are awake or asleep we might live with him. ¹¹Therefore encourage one another and build one another up, just as you are doing.

- **L** This is the Word of the Lord.
- **C** Thanks be to God.

Stand

Alleluia and Verse (John 6:68)



Holy Gospel Matthew 25:1–13

P The Holy Gospel according to St. Matthew, the twenty-fifth chapter.



¹[Jesus said:] "The kingdom of heaven will be like ten virgins who took their lamps and went to meet the bridegroom. ²Five of them were foolish, and five were wise. ³For when the foolish took their lamps, they took no oil with them, ⁴but the wise took flasks of oil with their lamps. ⁵As the bridegroom was delayed, they all became drowsy and slept. ⁶But at midnight there was a cry, 'Here is the bridegroom! Come out to meet him.' ⁷Then all those virgins rose and trimmed their lamps. ⁸And the foolish said to the wise, 'Give us some of your oil, for our lamps are going out.' ⁹But the wise answered, saying, 'Since there will not be enough for us and for you, go rather to the dealers and buy for yourselves.' ¹⁰And while they were going to buy, the bridegroom came, and those who were ready went in with him to the marriage feast, and the door was shut. ¹¹Afterward the other virgins came also, saying, 'Lord, lord, open to us.' ¹²But he answered, 'Truly, I say to you, I do not know you.' ¹³Watch therefore, for you know neither the day nor the hour."



Apostles' Creed

I believe in God, the Father Almighty, maker of heaven and earth.

And in Jesus Christ, His 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 into hell.
The third day He rose again from the dead.
He ascended into heaven
and sits at the right hand of God the Father Almighty.
From thence 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.

Sit

Hymn of the Day: I Want to Walk as a Child of the Light

Tune: HOUSTON

Sermon: Rightly prepared

Offering: Keep Your Lamps!

Spiritual, arr. Andre Thomas

Keep your lamps trimmed and burning, the time is drawing nigh.
Children, don't get weary 'til your work is done.
Christian, journey soon be over, the time is drawing nigh.
Keep your lamps trimmed and burning, the time is drawing nigh.

(Please fill out the green attendance card the pew, and then hand it to the usher on the way forward for communion.)

^{*}The term "catholic" means the whole Church as it confesses the wholeness of Christian doctrine.

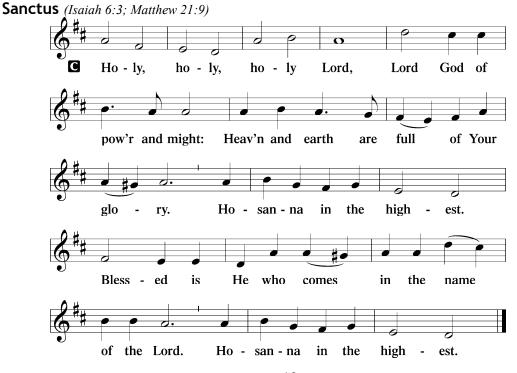


Prayer of the Church (1 Timothy 2:1-4)

- Let us pray for the whole people of God in Christ Jesus, and for all people according to their needs.
 - (after each petition)
- \mathbf{P} Lord, in your mercy...
- C Hear our prayer.
- \mathbf{P} ...one God, now and forever.
- C Amen.

Preface (2 Timothy 4:22; Colossians 3:1; Psalm 136)

- **P** The Lord be with you.
- **C** And also 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.
- It is truly good, right, and salutary that we should at all times and in all places give thanks to You, holy Lord, almighty Father, everlasting God, through Jesus Christ, our Lord, who, out of love for His fallen creation, humbled Himself by taking on the form of a servant, becoming obedient unto death, even death upon a cross. Risen from the dead, He has freed us from eternal death and given us life everlasting. Therefore with angels and archangels and with all the company of heaven we laud and magnify Your glorious name, evermore praising You and saying:



Prayer of Thanksgiving

P Blessed are You, Lord of heaven and earth, for You have had mercy on those whom You created and sent Your only-begotten Son into our flesh to bear our sin and be our Savior. With repentant joy we receive the salvation accomplished for us by the all-availing sacrifice of His body and His blood on the cross. Gathered in the name and the remembrance of Jesus, we beg You, O Lord, to forgive, renew, and strengthen us with Your Word and Spirit. Grant us faithfully to eat His body and drink His blood as He bids us do in His own testament. Gather us together, we pray, from the ends of the earth to celebrate with all the faithful the marriage feast of the Lamb in His kingdom, which has no end. Graciously receive our prayers; deliver and preserve us. To You alone, O Father, be all glory, honor, and worship, with the Son and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C Amen.

The Words of Our Lord (Mt 26:26-28; Mk 14:22-24; Lk 22:19-20; 1 Cor 11:23-25)

P Our Lord Jesus Christ, on the night when He was betrayed, took bread, and when He had given thanks, He broke it and gave it to the disciples and said: "Take, eat; this is My ⅓ body, which is given for you. This do in remembrance of Me." In the same way also He took the cup after supper, and when He had given thanks, He gave it to them, saying: "Drink of it, all of you; this cup is the new testament in My ⅙ blood, which is shed for you for the forgiveness of sins. This do, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of Me."

Proclamation of Christ

- As often as we eat this bread and drink this cup, we proclaim the Lord's death until He comes.
- **C** Amen. Come, Lord Jesus.
- P O Lord Jesus Christ, only Son of the Father, in giving us Your body and blood to eat and to drink, You lead us to remember and confess Your holy cross and passion, Your blessed death, Your rest in the tomb, Your resurrection from the dead, Your ascension into heaven, and Your coming for the final judgment. So remember us in Your kingdom and teach us to pray:

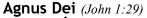
Lord's Prayer (Matthew 6:9-13; Luke 11:2-4)

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.

Pax Domini (John 20:19)

P The peace of the Lord be with you always.

C Amen.





Distribution

Please read what Saint John's believes concerning the Sacrament of the Altar:

As Lutherans, we believe, teach, and confess that in the Holy Supper all receive the Body and Blood of our Lord Jesus Christ with their mouth. Believers feed on Christ for the assurance of salvation and the strengthening of their faith.

To assure that our Lord's great gifts are received in a beneficial way, Holy Scripture says in 1 Corinthians 11:28-29 "A man ought to examine himself before he eats of the bread and drinks of the cup. For anyone who eats and drinks without recognizing the body of the Lord eats and drinks judgment on himself." Self examination includes:

1) The confession that we are sinful and in need of God's forgiveness. (Ps 51; Romans 3: 9-28)

2) The faith that Jesus Christ is truly and actually present in the Sacrament, offering His very Body and Blood for all to eat, so that our sins are forgiven. (Mt 26: 26-28; 1 Cor 10: 16-21)

3) The sincere resolve, with the Holy Spirit's help, to amend what is sinful in our life by actively belonging to a body of believers where these Scriptural truths are preached and taught. (Acts 2: 42; Ephesians 2: 8-10) If this reflects your belief and you are a member in good standing, not under discipline, at a congregation of The Lutheran Church – Missouri Synod or a church body with which we are in fellowship, we welcome you to the Lord's Table and pray that His Body and Blood will be for your soul the highest good. If you are not sure, or do not understand, we ask that you speak with the Pastor, at your earliest convenience, prior to communing. If you would like to come to the altar and receive a personal blessing instead of the Eucharist, please cross your arms over your chest as a sign to the pastor.

Distribution will take place around the altar. Both sides of the church will be ushered forward up the center aisle at the same time with the first person in line starting at the center, and the rest fanning out along the sides. Once everyone has come forward, you will be invited to kneel, if able, to receive the Sacrament. Once all have received, and the pastor announces the dismissal, you may stand and the two people in the middle will turn and start back to their seats, with both sides following and returning via the side aisles.

A Prayer before Communing

Lord God, we worship you, a Trinity of persons, one eternal God. May our faith and the sacrament we receive bring us health of mind and body. We ask this through Christ our Lord. Amen.

Distribution Hymn: Jerusalem, My Happy Home

LSB 673
Tune: LAND OF REST

14.10. 2.11.12 01 11

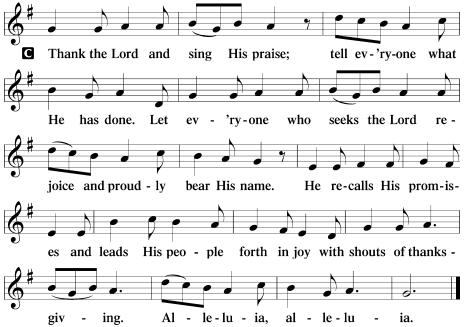
Distribution Voluntary: Pastorale "Zion hears the watchmen singing"

Wayne L. Wold

A Prayer after Receiving the Sacrament

O God, our life, our strength, our food, we give you thanks for sustaining us with the body and blood of your Son. By your Holy Spirit, enliven us to be his body in the world, that more and more we will give you praise and serve your earth and its many peoples, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.





Post-Communion Collect

- Let us pray...We give thanks to You, almighty God, that You have refreshed us through this salutary gift, and we implore You that of Your mercy You would strengthen us through the same in faith toward You and in fervent love toward one another; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.
- C Amen.

Benediction (Numbers 6:24-26)

P 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.

C Amen.

Closing Hymn: Wake, Awake, for Night is Flying

LSB 516
Tune: WACHET AUF

Closing Voluntary: WACHET AUF Philipp Nicolai, 1556-1608, setting by Jeffrey Blersch

(You are invited, and encouraged, to stay and listen to the voluntary as a way to continue to ponder God's love for you, and consider how today's message and music can influence your life over the coming week. This is also a nice way to calm yourself before heading out into the rest of the day's activities.)

A Prayer for Departure

Draw your church together, O God, into one great company of disciples, together following our teacher Jesus Christ into every walk of life, together serving in Christ's mission to the world, together witnessing to your love wherever you will send us; for the sake of Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen

+ SOLI DEO GLORIA - TO GOD ALONE BE THE GLORY +

† Look Ahead for next week:

The First Sunday in Advent: Isaiah 2:1-5; Romans 13:11-14; Matthew 24:36-44 Daily Devotions for Home and Family are available on the way out and online

SAINT JOHN'S IN ACTION

Sun 11/23		ay of the Church Year osted by the Rooney Family Divine Service Bible Study Divine Service Sunday School Faith Renewal
Mon 11/24	6:00pm	Basketball
	7:00pm	Boy Scouts
Tue 11/25	6:00pm	Basketball
		Judo/Women's 12-Step
Wed 11/26	12:30pm	Narcotics Anonymous
	7:00pm	Thanksgiving Eve Divine Service
	7:45pm	SoLI
Thu 11/27	CHURCH OFFICE CLOSED - HAPPY THANKSGIIVNG!	
Fri 11/28	12:30pm	Narcotics Anonymous
Sun 11/30	The First Sunday in Advent	
Coffee Hour hosted by the Dondero Family		osted by the Dondero Family
	7:45am	Divine Service
	8:30am	Bible Study
	9:30am	Divine Service w/Holy Baptism
	9:30am	Sunday School
	10:30am	Nativity Setup



Want to give an offering but forgot cash or a checkbook? Now you can give securely online! Simply scan the QR Code on your mobile device and you will be directed to St. John's Donation page.

Contributions Received 11/10-11/16/25	\$4,545	Wednesday Attendance: 18 Sunday Attendance: 103
Weekly Forecasted Income	\$5,209	
Monthly Mortgage Payment	\$2,554	
F.O.R. Contributions - November	\$735	

<u>General Fund</u> - In memory of Shannon Hole from Priscilla Ratje; Virginia & Richard Porter; Jane Kramer; Tuesday Evening Ladies Bible Study of Trinity Lutheran Church; Donnalee & Arthur Morris; Larry & Lois Rudin; Audrey Tallman; Dianne Daly.

<u>Hand Bell Choir Fund</u> - In memory of Shannon Hole from Paul Wackenhuth.

<u>Christmas Mail</u> - Martha will have their 2nd Annual Christmas Mailbox at church. This is for those who attend church and would like to send Christmas cards to members of our church family. Please refer to the insert for detailed information on the card exchange. Copies are available on the table in the Narthex.

Samaritan's Purse, Operation Christmas Child - Our local shoebox drop-off location is at the Gospel Community Church, located at 138 Greeley Ave, Sayville. ***Final drop off days are: Sun, Nov. 23: 2:00 PM - 4:00 PM Mon, Nov. 24: 11:00 AM - 1:00 PM.*** Please contact Honey Pabst with any questions.

<u>Nativity Setup</u> - On *Sunday, November 30* following the 9:30am service, the nativity set will be put up on the front lawn of the church (weather permitting). If you can spare a few minutes that day, help is greatly appreciated.

<u>Advent/Christmas Help</u> - A signup sheet has been posted on the bulletin board to help as an usher, communion steward, or acolyte for our Advent Midweek, Christmas Eve, Christmas Day, and New Year's Eve Services. Please sign up to help, or contact the Church Office. Thank you, in advance, for your assistance in making our holiday services run smoothly.

<u>Vacation Bible School</u> - St. John's will host VBS this next year during winter break from school, *February 17-20*. Registration is now open on our website. Please register by November 30, and help us spread the word about this exciting program!

<u>SoLI presents Chronicles & Carols</u> - St. John's hosts the chamber choir, <u>Singers of Long Island</u> in concert Wednesday, December 17 at 7 pm. Join us for Advent classics, Christmas carols, spirituals and more, followed by a festive reception. Help spread the word (& The Word) by inviting a friends & neighbors to join you! \$15/10 students & seniors with all proceeds going to St. John's.

<u>Communion Stewards:</u> Charlie Erb (7:45am); Al Coppola (9:30am); <u>Ushers:</u> Steve & Janet Lindfors (7:45am); Kevin Paul & Barbara Dahlgren (9:30am); <u>Readers:</u> Pastor (7:45am); Jenn Rooney (9:30am); <u>Musicians:</u> Chancel Choir; Ken Donaldson, Djembe (9:30am); <u>Counters:</u> Gene & Lisa Giacoia

Saint John's Evangelical Lutheran Church Phone: (631) 589-3202

Website: www.stjohnsayville.org

Facebook: Saint John's Evangelical Lutheran Church - Savville NY

Rev. Brian Noack, Pastor Cell Phone: (631) 806-7119 E-mail: pastor@stjohnsayville.org

Cynthia Holden, Director of Music E-mail: music@stjohnsayville.org

Whitney Dale, Office Administrator E-mail: admin@stjohnsayville.org

Carolyn Holtz, Bookkeeper E-mail: bookkeeper@stjohnsavville.org

Tom Keller & Steve Lindfors **Facilities Management**

Saint John's Divine Service Schedule: Sunday 7:45am & 9:30am Wednesday 7:00pm

Church Office Hours: Tuesday - Friday: 9:30am-2:30pm

Bookkeeper Hours: Tuesdays & Thursdays: 11am-3pm

A congregation of The Lutheran Church - Missouri Synod

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