

NOVEMBER 10, 2024 | 9:30 am  
TWENTY-FIFTH 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

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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>	Grant Hersperger	<b>Media</b>	Shannon Omlor
<b>Altar Assistants</b>	Jen Friz, Jen Schlegel	<b>Musician</b>	Patricia Keith
<b>Altar Guild</b>	Dorothy Breitreutz	<b>Prayers</b>	Bonnie Moatz
<b>Assisting Minister</b>	Mel Roth	<b>Sound</b>	Brianna Rohrbach
<b>Lector</b>	Lori Carnes	<b>Video</b>	Abbe Grofe
<b>Ushers</b>	Susan & Andy Varzally, Sandy & Terry Wade		

Flowers given in memory of Leon on our anniversary by Barbara Houp.



## Twenty-Fifth Sunday after Pentecost

Widows are visible everywhere in today's readings. Jesus denounces those scribes who pray impressive prayers but devour widows' houses. He commends the poor widow who in his view gave far more than the major donors. Jesus doesn't see her simply as an object of compassion or charity. She, like the widow of Zarephath who shares her last bit of food with Elijah, does something of great importance.

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### PRELUDE

### VIDEO

### WELCOME

### CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

*The congregation may stand.*

Blessed be the holy Trinity, one God, our refuge, our delight, our beginning and our end. **Amen.**

Let us come in truth before the one who loves us and has freed us from our sin.

Eternal One, robed in majesty and mercy, **we confess that sin has taken hold of us and we are complicit in its power. We are disturbed in spirit and our hearts cannot rest. Unbind us and set us free. Lead us again to the waters of rebirth, that we may live just and generous lives for the good of your world and the care of our neighbors, following in the servant way of Jesus. Amen.**

These words are trustworthy and true: Christ bore our sins once, for all, on the cross, swallowing up death forever. For his sake, you are forgiven and God remembers your sin no more. Let your heart be glad again, and rejoice in your salvation. **Amen.**

### MUSIC SELECTION

**Here I Am to Worship**

**Tim Hughes**

Light of the world, You stepped down into darkness  
Opened my eyes, let me see  
Beauty that made this heart adore You  
Hope of a life spent with You

#### *Refrain*

Here I am to worship  
Here I am to bow down  
Here I am to say that You're my God

You're altogether lovely  
Altogether worthy  
Altogether wonderful to me

King of all days, oh, so highly exalted  
Glorious in Heaven above  
Humbly You came to the Earth You created  
All for love's sake became poor (refrain)

I'll never know how much it cost  
To see my sin upon that cross  
I'll never know how much it cost  
To see my sin upon that cross  
I'll never know how much it cost  
To see my sin upon that cross (*refrain x4*)

Here I am to worship  
Here I am to bow down  
Here I am to say that You're my God  
You're altogether lovely  
Altogether worthy, altogether

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, you show forth your almighty power chiefly by reaching out to us in mercy. Grant us the fullness of your grace, strengthen our trust in your promises, and bring all the world to share in the treasures that come through your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.**

## Change My Heart, O God

The musical score is written on four staves of music. The first staff begins with a treble clef, a key signature of one sharp (F#), and a 3/4 time signature. It is marked 'Refrain' and contains the lyrics 'Change my heart, O God; make it ev - er true.' The second staff continues the melody with the lyrics 'Change my heart, O God; may I be like you.' and is marked 'End'. The third staff features a triplet of eighth notes and contains the lyrics 'You are the pot - ter; I am the clay.' The fourth staff also features a triplet and concludes with the lyrics 'Mold me and make me; this is what I pray.' and is marked 'Refrain'.

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

### 1 Kings 17:8-16

*This chapter begins the story of Elijah. God sends a drought on Israel because of the sins of King Ahab. This passage depicts God's saving acts not only on behalf of Elijah, but also on behalf of those who are associated with the prophet, even a foreigner, the widow of Zarephath.*

<sup>8</sup>The word of the Lord came to [Elijah,] saying, <sup>9</sup>“Go now to Zarephath, which belongs to Sidon, and live there; for I have commanded a widow there to feed you.” <sup>10</sup>So he set out and went to Zarephath. When he came to the gate of the town, a widow was there gathering sticks; he called to her and said, “Bring me a little water in a vessel, so that I may drink.” <sup>11</sup>As she was going to bring it, he called to her and said, “Bring me a morsel of bread in your hand.” <sup>12</sup>But she said, “As the Lord your God lives, I have nothing baked, only a handful of meal in a jar, and a little oil in a jug; I am now gathering a couple of sticks, so that I may go home and prepare it for myself and my son, that we may eat it, and die.” <sup>13</sup>Elijah said to her, “Do not be afraid; go and do as you have said; but first make me a little cake of it and bring it to me, and afterwards make something for yourself and your son. <sup>14</sup>For thus says the Lord the God of Israel: The jar of meal will not be emptied and the jug of oil will not fail until the day that the Lord sends rain on the earth.” <sup>15</sup>She went and did as Elijah said, so that she as well as he and her household ate for many days. <sup>16</sup>The

jar of meal was not emptied, neither did the jug of oil fail, according to the word of the Lord that he spoke by Elijah.

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

## SECOND READING

**Hebrews 9:24-28**

*The letter to the Hebrews describes Christ as a high priest who offers himself as a sacrifice for our sin. Christ does not die again and again each year. He died once, is alive with God, and will reveal himself on the last day.*

<sup>24</sup>Christ did not enter a sanctuary made by human hands, a mere copy of the true one, but he entered into heaven itself, now to appear in the presence of God on our behalf. <sup>25</sup>Nor was it to offer himself again and again, as the high priest enters the Holy Place year after year with blood that is not his own; <sup>26</sup>for then he would have had to suffer again and again since the foundation of the world. But as it is, he has appeared once for all at the end of the age to remove sin by the sacrifice of himself. <sup>27</sup>And just as it is appointed for mortals to die once, and after that the judgment, <sup>28</sup>so Christ, having been offered once to bear the sins of many, will appear a second time, not to deal with sin, but to save those who are eagerly waiting for him.

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

**Mark 12:38-44**

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

*After engaging in a series of public arguments with religious leaders in the temple, Jesus contrasts the proud and oppressive ways of those leaders with the sacrificial humility and poverty of the widow.*

<sup>38</sup>As [Jesus] taught, he said, "Beware of the scribes, who like to walk around in long robes, and to be greeted with respect in the marketplaces, <sup>39</sup>and to have the best seats in the synagogues and places of honor at banquets! <sup>40</sup>They devour widows' houses and for the sake of appearance say long prayers. They will receive the greater condemnation." <sup>41</sup>He sat down opposite the treasury, and watched the crowd putting money into the treasury. Many rich people put in large sums. <sup>42</sup>A poor widow came and put in two small copper coins, which are worth a penny. <sup>43</sup>Then he called

his disciples and said to them, “Truly I tell you, this poor widow has put in more than all those who are contributing to the treasury. <sup>44</sup>For all of them have contributed out of their abundance; but she out of her poverty has put in everything she had, all she had to live on.”

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

*The congregation may be seated.*

## **SERMON**

**Pastor Bob Machamer**

*The congregation may stand.*

## **MUSIC SELECTION**

**Give Thanks**

**Henry Smith**

Give thanks with a grateful heart

Give thanks to the Holy One

Give thanks because He’s given Jesus Christ His Son

Give thanks with a grateful heart

Give thanks to the Holy One

Give thanks because He’s given Jesus Christ His Son

And now let the weak say, “I am strong”

Let the poor say, “I am rich”

Because of what The Lord has done for us

And now let the weak say, “I am strong”

Let the poor say, “I am rich”

Because of what The Lord has done for us

Give thanks

Give thanks

Give thanks with a grateful heart

Give thanks to the Holy One

Give thanks because He’s given Jesus Christ His Son

Give thanks with a grateful heart

Give thanks to the Holy One

Give thanks because He’s given Jesus Christ His Son

And now let the weak say, “I am strong”

Let the poor say, “I am rich”

Because of what The Lord has done for us

And now let the weak say, “I am strong”

Let the poor say, “I am rich”

Because of what The Lord has done for us



And now let the weak say, "I am strong"  
Let the poor say, "I am rich"  
Because of what The Lord has done for us  
And now let the weak say, "I am strong"  
Let the poor say, "I am rich"  
Because of what The Lord has done for us

Give thanks  
Give thanks  
Give thanks  
Give thanks

### **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.**

*The congregation may kneel.*

### **PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION**

Rooted in God's abundant love for the world, let us pray for our neighbors, the church, and all of creation.

Renew your church, O God. Make us servants to one another for the sake of the gospel. Instill a heart for service and a passion for justice in our bishops, deacons, pastors, and lay leaders. Merciful God, **receive our prayer.**

Renew your creation, O God. Sustain the earth and seas and all that is in them. Kindle in us a reverent awe for all creatures great and small, and strengthen us in our pursuit of climate justice. Merciful God, **receive our prayer.**

Renew the nations, O God. Heal our nation's veterans from the unseen wounds of war. Tend to their trauma and soothe burdened consciences. Guide leaders of the world to end conflicts and pursue peace. Merciful God, **receive our prayer.**

Renew your people, O God. Protect those in our communities who are vulnerable or ill. Accompany persons who are unemployed or underemployed, children who are in foster care, and those who live alone. Watch over and uphold them. Merciful God, **receive our prayer.**

Renew this congregation, O God. Give us clarity in our mission and boldness in our witness. Bless our ministries that attend to basic needs of any who lack sufficient resources, that all may live with dignity. Merciful God, **receive our prayer.**

*Please verbally add your personal prayer requests.*

Happy are those whose help was in you. We give thanks for all your faithful ones who praised you as their God all their life long. As we eagerly wait for you, inspire us by their lives of service. Merciful God, **receive our prayer.**

We offer our prayers to you, gracious God, trusting in your boundless love for all that you have made, through Jesus Christ our Savior. **Amen.**

## **OFFERING MUSIC**

*The congregation may stand.*

## **OFFERING PRAYER**

Lord Jesus, our portion and our cup, you offered yourself in love for the world, and in this meal you nourish us with your life. Fill us with your abundance, that we may feed the hungry and welcome the stranger, trusting in your name. **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

Behold, God is making all things new. Take your place in the new creation.

*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 do not wish 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

Faithful God, you have spread before us a feast of rich food and drink in the body and blood of your Son. Now send us out to labor with you, in service to the world you have made, and among the people you have made your home, in Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. **Amen.**

## BENEDICTION

The Ancient One, enthroned, the Crucified One, now risen, the Indwelling One, poured out, bless you now and forever. **Amen.**

## SENDING HYMN

### Blessed Assurance

ELW 638



- 1 Bless-ed as-sur-ance, Je-sus is mine! Oh, what a fore-taste of glo-ry di-vine!
- 2 Per-fect sub-mis-sion, per-fect de-light, vi-sions of rap-ture now burst on my sight;
- 3 Per-fect sub-mis-sion, all is at rest; I in my Sav-ior am hap-py and blest,



Heir of sal-va-tion, pur-chase of God, born of his Spir-it, washed in his blood.  
an-gels de-scend-ing bring from a-bove ech-oes of mer-cy, whis-pers of love.  
watch-ing and wait-ing, look-ing a-bove, filled with his good-ness, lost in his love.

*Refrain*



This is my sto-ry, this is my song, prais-ing my Sav-ior all the day long:



this is my sto-ry, this is my song, prais-ing my Sav-ior all the day long.

## **DISMISSAL**

Go in peace. Encourage one another in Christ. **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



## SALUTE TO OUR VETERANS

featuring Boyertown Area School District students &  
Major Daniel Fair, U.S. Air Force Retired

Thursday, November 14 | 6:30 pm

St. John's Lutheran Church  
45 N. Reading Avenue | Boyertown

sponsored by Boyertown Rotary Club

A poster for an Advent event. The background is a dark blue gradient with yellow stars in the top left and lit candles at the bottom. The text is centered and reads:

Live in Faith Together -  
Experience the anticipation of Advent in  
**THE WAITING ROOM**  
Wednesday, December 4, 11, 18

6:00 PM enjoy a simple meal (Lower Level)  
6:45 PM participate in an activity  
7:00 PM engage in Holden Evening Prayer  
(Sanctuary)

find more  
information online  
and in the  
Nov. newsletter

## THIS WEEK AT ST. JOHN'S

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### SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 10 – Twenty-Fifth Sunday after Pentecost

9:30 AM	Worship Celebration	Sanctuary
9:30 AM	Sunday School	Parish House, 2 <sup>nd</sup> Floor
10:45 AM	Christmas Meal Planning	Lower Level
11:00 AM	Karitas Meeting	Conference Room

### MONDAY, NOVEMBER 11 – Veteran's Day

Office Closed

5:00 PM	Newsletter Submission	
6:30 PM	Girl Scouts	Fellowship Hall
7:30 PM	Optimist Club of Boyertown	Conference Room

### TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 12

6:30 PM	Veterans Salute Rehearsal	Sanctuary
7:00 PM	Handbells	Handbell Room

### WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 13

11:45 AM	Preschool Staff Meeting	Preschool
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### THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 14

10:00 AM	Chestnut Knoll Service	Chestnut Knoll
6:30 PM	Veterans Salute	Sanctuary
8:00 PM	Worship Broadcast	Comcast Ch 98

### FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 15

7:00 AM	Men's Small Group Bible Study	Telephone Conference
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### SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 16

9:00 AM	Living Lutherans Lives Retreat	Lower Level
4:30 PM	Come to the Table	Fellowship Hall/Parking Lot

### SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 17 – Twenty-Sixth Sunday after Pentecost

9:30 AM	Worship Celebration	Sanctuary
9:30 AM	Sunday School	Parish House, 2 <sup>nd</sup> Floor
10:45 AM	Reception	Lower Level

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Scan the QR Code with your phone's camera to connect to our website and view more of what's happening at St. John's!



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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

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