



St. John Evangelical Lutheran Church & Christian Preschool  
200 S Main St  
Charles City, Iowa 50616  
641-228-3397  
[www.stjohncharlescity.org](http://www.stjohncharlescity.org)

Rev. Russ Leeper, Senior Pastor  
Beth Hurt, Intern  
Melanie Johanningmeier, Director of Music  
Cherie Schafer, Piano

**Sunday, November 19, 2023**  
**25<sup>th</sup> Sunday after Pentecost**



**Matthew 25:14-30**

*Prelude:*

**“Hymn of Thanksgiving”  
(Cherie Schafer-Piano & Melanie Johanningmeier-Organ)**

*Welcome*

The flowers on the Altar are sponsored by Bill & Arlene Hollar, in celebration of their anniversary.

The radio broadcast is sponsored by Judy & Kip Hauser in memory of wonderful parents.

Treats are being provided by The Kendalls.

***Brief Order of Confession and Forgiveness:***

L: In the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit. **Amen.**

L: Almighty God, to whom all hearts are open, all desires know, and from whom no secrets are hid: cleanse the thoughts of our hearts by the inspiration of your Holy Spirit, that we may perfectly love you and worthily magnify your holy name, through Jesus Christ our Lord.

C: **Amen.**

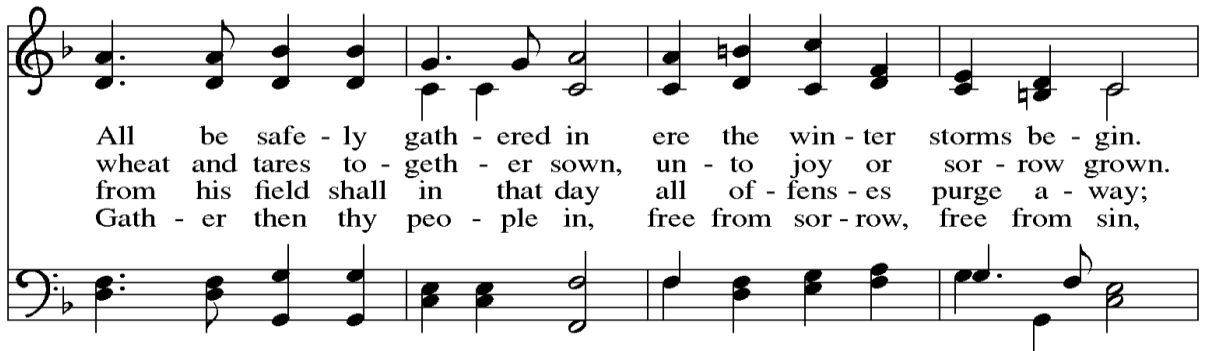
L: Let us confess our sin in the presence of God and of one another. Most merciful God,

**C: we confess that we are captive to sin and cannot free ourselves. 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. 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.**

L: In the mercy of almighty God, Jesus Christ was given to die for us, and for his sake God forgives us all our sins. As a called and ordained minister of the church of Christ, and by his authority, I therefore declare to you the forgiveness of all your sins, in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit. **Amen.**



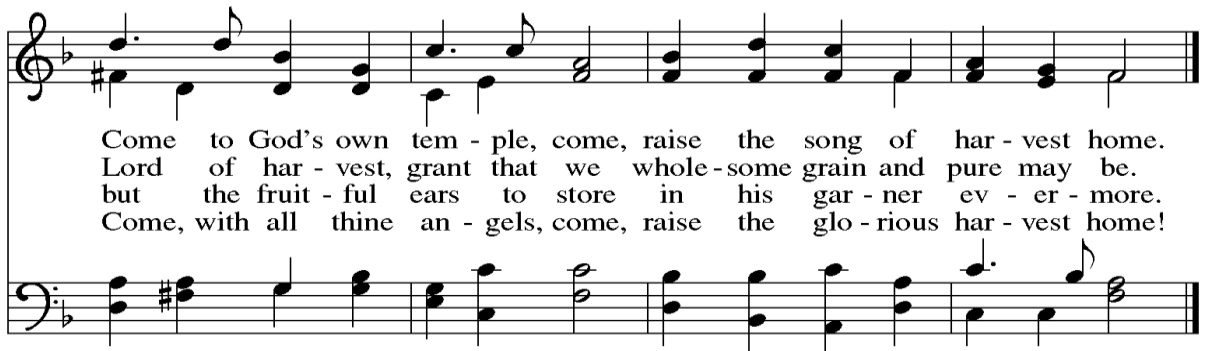
1 Come, ye thank-ful peo-ple, come; raise the song of har-vest home.  
 2 All the world is God's own field, fruit un-to his praise to yield;  
 3 For the Lord our God shall come and shall take his har-vest home;  
 4 E-ven so, Lord, quick-ly come to thy fi-nal har-vest home.



All be safe-ly gath-ered in ere the win-ter storms be-gin.  
 wheat and tares to-geth-er sown, un-to joy or sor-row grown.  
 from his field shall in that day all of-fens-es purge a-way;  
 Gath-er then thy peo-ple in, free from sor-row, free from sin,



God, our mak-er, doth pro-vide for our wants to be sup-plied.  
 First the blade, and then the ear, then the full corn shall ap-pear.  
 give his an-gels charge at last in the fire the tares to cast,  
 there, for-ev-er pu-ri-fied, in thy gar-ner to a-bide.



Come to God's own tem-ple, come, raise the song of har-vest home.  
 Lord of har-vest, grant that we whole-some grain and pure may be.  
 but the fruit-ful ears to store in his gar-ner ev-er-more.  
 Come, with all thine an-gels, come, raise the glo-rious har-vest home!

***Apostolic Greeting:***

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

C: **And also with you.**

***Prayer of the Day***

**Righteous God, our merciful master, you own the earth and all its peoples, and you give us all that we have. Inspire us to serve you with justice and wisdom, and prepare us for the joy of the day of your coming, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.**

***Music:***

**“Give Thanks”**

**Trinity Choir**

***Scripture Reading***

**1 Thessalonians 5:1-11**

**Read by Jenisha Garden**

<sup>1</sup>Now concerning the times and the seasons, brothers and sisters, you do not need to have anything written to you. <sup>2</sup>For you yourselves know very well that the day of the Lord will come like a thief in the night. <sup>3</sup>When they say, “There is peace and security,” then sudden destruction will come upon them, as labor pains come upon a pregnant woman, and there will be no escape! <sup>4</sup>But you, beloved, are not in darkness, for that day to surprise you like a thief; <sup>5</sup>for you are all children of light and children of the day; we are not of the night or of darkness. <sup>6</sup>So then let us not fall asleep as others do, but let us keep awake and be sober; <sup>7</sup>for those who sleep sleep at night, and those who are drunk get drunk at night. <sup>8</sup>But since we belong to the day, let us be sober, and put on the breastplate of faith and love, and for a helmet the hope of salvation. <sup>9</sup>For God has destined us not for wrath but for obtaining salvation through our Lord Jesus Christ, <sup>10</sup>who died for us, so that whether we are awake or asleep we may live with him. <sup>11</sup>Therefore encourage one another and build up each other, as indeed you are doing.

## “Jesus Loves the Little Children”

Jesus loves the little children, all the children of the world.  
Every color shape and size, they are precious in His eyes.  
Jesus loves the little children of the world.

Jesus loves the little children,  
All the children of the world.  
Jesus is the Shepherd true, and He'll always stand by you,  
For He loves the little children of the world.

Jesus loves the little children, all the children of the world.  
Every color shape and size, they are precious in His eyes.  
Jesus loves the little children of the world.

### *Children's Sermon*

### *Gospel Song*

#### “Alleluia”

Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia, alleluia,  
Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia, alleluia:

*L: The Holy Gospel according to* **Matthew 25:14-30**



## Matthew 25:14-30

[Jesus said to the disciples:] <sup>14</sup>“For it is as if a man, going on a journey, summoned his slaves and entrusted his property to them; <sup>15</sup>to one he gave five talents, to another two, to another one, to each according to his ability. Then he went away. <sup>16</sup>The one who had received the five talents went off at once and traded with them, and made five more talents. <sup>17</sup>In the same way, the one who had the two talents made two more talents. <sup>18</sup>But the one who had received the one talent went off and dug a hole in the ground and hid his master’s money. <sup>19</sup>After a long time the master of those slaves came and settled accounts with them. <sup>20</sup>Then the one who had received the five talents came forward, bringing five more talents, saying, ‘Master, you handed over to me five talents; see, I have made five more talents.’ <sup>21</sup>His master said to him, ‘Well done, good and trustworthy slave; you have been trustworthy in a few things, I will put you in charge of many things; enter into the joy of your master.’ <sup>22</sup>And the one with the two talents also came forward, saying, ‘Master, you handed over to me two talents; see, I have made two more talents.’ <sup>23</sup>His master said to him, ‘Well done, good and trustworthy slave; you have been trustworthy in a few things, I will put you in charge of many things; enter into the joy of your master.’ <sup>24</sup>Then the one who had received the one talent also came forward, saying, ‘Master, I knew that you were a harsh man, reaping where you did not sow, and gathering where you did not scatter seed; <sup>25</sup>so I was afraid, and I went and hid your talent in the ground. Here you have what is yours.’ <sup>26</sup>But his master replied, ‘You wicked and lazy slave! You knew, did you, that I reap where I did not sow, and gather where I did not scatter? <sup>27</sup>Then you ought to have invested my money with the bankers, and on my return I would have received what was my own with interest. <sup>28</sup>So take the talent from him, and give it to the one with the ten talents. <sup>29</sup>For to all those who have, more will be given, and they will have an abundance; but from those who have nothing, even what they have will be taken away. <sup>30</sup>As for this worthless slave, throw him into the outer darkness, where there will be weeping and gnashing of teeth.’ ”

*L: The Gospel of the Lord...*



**Music:** “He’s Got the Whole World / For the Beauty of the Earth” **Trinity Choir**  
**Soloist, Lydia Johnson**

**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 Prayers (L):*** Lord in your mercy,  
Response: **hear our prayer.**

***Please keep the following in prayer:***

Deb Watkins	Georgena Miller	Linda Girken
Colleen Ortmyer	Bill Wohlers Jr.	Imani Sande
Ruth Farmer	Noa Mulholland	Don Knowlton
Lorna Scrimger	Skip Ward	Marilu Wohlers

***Prayers & condolences to the family and friends of Bobby Wolff upon his passing.***

***Prayers & condolences to the family and friends of Mary Ann Townsend upon her passing.***

**Please pray for all serving in the Armed Forces & their families:** Kaleb Bilharz,  
Mackenzey Bilharz, Tanner Evans, Kaylie Fox, Hannah Fox, Kim Hall, Daniel Jacobs,  
Cameron Kakac, Drew Roethler, Robson Shankland



1 Long - ing for light, we wait in dark - ness. Long - ing for  
 2 Long - ing for peace, our world is trou - bled. Long - ing for  
 3 Long - ing for food, man - y are hun - gry. Long - ing for  
 4 Long - ing for shel - ter, man - y are home - less. Long - ing for  
 5 Man - y the gifts, man - y the peo - ple, man - y the



truth, we turn to you. Make us your own,  
 hope, man - y de - spair. Your word a - lone  
 wa - ter, man - y still thirst. Make us your bread,  
 warmth, man - y are cold. Make us your build - ing,  
 hearts that yearn to be - long. Let us be ser - vants



your ho - ly peo - ple, light for the world to see.  
 has pow'r to save us. Make us your liv - ing voice.  
 bro - ken for oth - ers, shared un - til all are fed.  
 shel - ter - ing oth - ers, walls made of liv - ing stone.  
 to one an - oth - er, signs of your king - dom come.

*Refrain*



Christ, be our light! Shine in our hearts. Shine through the



dark - ness. Christ, be our light! Shine in your



church gath - ered to - day.



**\*Response**

**“Feed Us Now”**

Feed us now, Bread of life, In this holy meal;  
Let us know your love a-new; We hunger for you.  
Feed us now, Bread of life, Come and live with-in.  
Let your peace be ours today, Lord Jesus, we pray

*The Words of Institution*

*The Lord’s Prayer*

**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.**

*Communion Invitation*

**“Here Is Bread”**

**#483**

Here is bread, here is wine,  
Christ is with us, he is with us.  
Break the bread, taste the wine,  
Christ is with us here.

Here is grace, here is peace,  
Christ is with us, he is with us.  
Know his grace, find his peace,  
Feast on Jesus here.

Here we are, joined in one,  
Christ is with us, he is with us.  
We’ll proclaim till he comes  
Jesus crucified.

# "Here I Am Lord"

#574



1 "I, the Lord of sea and sky, I have heard my peo - ple cry.  
 2 "I, the Lord of snow and rain, I have borne my peo - ple's pain.  
 3 "I, the Lord of wind and flame, I will tend the poor and lame.



All who dwell in dark and sin my hand will save.  
 I have wept for love of them. They turn a - way.  
 I will set a feast for them. My hand will save.



I, who made the stars of night, I will make their dark-ness bright.  
 I will break their hearts of stone, give them hearts for love a - lone.  
 Fin-est bread I will pro-vide till their hearts be sat - is - fied.



Who will bear my light to them? Whom shall I send?"  
 I will speak my word to them. Whom shall I send?"  
 I will give my life to them. Whom shall I send?"

*Refrain*



Here I am, Lord. Is it I, Lord? I have heard you



call-ing in the night. I will go, Lord, if you



lead me. I will hold your peo - ple in my heart.



1 There's a wide-ness in God's mer - cy, like the wide-ness of the sea;  
 2 There is wel - come for the sin - ner, and a prom - ised grace made good;  
 3 For the love of God is broad - er than the mea - sures of our mind;  
 4 'Tis not all we owe to Je - sus; it is some - thing more than all:



there's a kind - ness in God's jus - tice which is more than lib - er - ty.  
 there is mer - cy with the Sav - ior; there is heal - ing in his blood.  
 and the heart of the E - ter - nal is most won - der - ful - ly kind.  
 great - er good be - cause of e - vil, larg - er mer - cy through the fall.



There is no place where earth's sor - rows are more felt than up in heav'n.  
 There is grace e - nough for thou - sands of new worlds as great as this;  
 But we make this love too nar - row by false lim - its of our own;  
 Make our love, O God, more faith - ful; let us take you at your word,



There is no place where earth's fail - ings have such kind - ly judg - ment giv'n.  
 there is room for fresh cre - a - tions in that up - per home of bliss.  
 and we mag - ni - fy its strict - ness with a zeal God will not own.  
 and our lives will be thanks - giv - ing for the good - ness of the Lord.

*Communion Blessing & Benediction*

*Sending Hymn*

**“Now Thank We All Our God”**

**#840**

1 Now thank we all our God with hearts and hands and voices,  
2 Oh, may this bounteous God through all our life be near us,  
3 All praise and thanks to God the Father now be given,

who wondrous things has done, in whom this world rejoices;  
with ever joyful hearts and blessed peace to cheer us,  
the Son, and Spirit blest, who reign in highest heaven,

who, from our mothers' arms, has blest us on our way  
and keep us all in grace, and guide us when perplexed,  
the one eternal God, whom earth and heav'n adore;

with countless gifts of love, and still is ours to-day.  
and free us from all harm in this world and the next.  
for thus it was, is now, and shall be ever more.

*L:* Go in peace. Share the Good News!  
**Thanks be to God!**

*Postlude:*

**“Now Thank We All Our God”**



St. John Evangelical Lutheran Church & Christian Preschool  
 200 S Main St Charles City, Iowa 50616; 641-228-3397

**November 19 -- November 26**

Sunday	9:00 AM	Worship/Communion Trinity Choir Sings
	10:00 AM	After Worship Social Time
	10:05 AM	Kids Sunday School
	10:05 AM	Youth Hour
	10:15 AM	Adult Catechism Class...Last Class
Monday	6:00 PM	Cub Scouts
Tuesday	9:00 AM	Newsletter Deadline
	2:00 PM	Stewardship Board
	6:00 PM	Council
Wednesday	11:00 AM	Bulletin Deadline
	<b>NO</b>	Wednesday Night Supper & Activities
Thursday	<b>Thanksgiving Offices Closed</b>	
Friday	<b>Offices Closed</b>	
	5:00 PM	Girl Scouts
Sunday	9:00 AM	Worship "Christ the King"
	10:00 AM	After Worship Social Time
	10:05 AM	Kids Sunday School
	10:05 AM	Youth Hour

**Offering from the week of:**

**November 12, 2023**

General Receipts:	\$6,838.62
Designated:	\$60.00
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$6,898.62</b>

*General Receipts of \$9,580.03 are needed weekly to meet the approved budget.*

**Sunday Attendance: 253**

**If any kids are interested in providing prelude music, please contact Melanie by Dec. 3.**



**We would love to feature the kids on piano or other instruments**

**Music Sunday:**

***Sunday, December 17, 2023***

**Come and join us for a service of music and word.**

**"Rejoice, Your Light Has Come" featuring: Trinity Choir, Kids Choir, Tone Chime Choir, and other special music.**

**Dartball**  
 Contact Dennis Sande  
 at 319-389-7998

*Blue Christmas Service*  
*December 21<sup>st</sup> at 5:30pm*  
*Gentle service of expression*  
*and reflection*  
*for those who are grieving,*  
*experiencing loneliness or*  
*loss this holiday season.*

**Wednesday Night Schedule**

- 3:30 pm      After School
- 5:00 pm      Supper
- 5:30 pm      Kids Choir
- 6:00 pm      Confirmation
- 6:00 pm      Tone Chime Choir
- 7:00 pm      Trinity Choir
- 7:00 pm      Dartball

**Wednesday Night Supper**

**\*\*November 22\*\***

**NO WEDNESDAY NIGHT SUPPER**

	<p style="text-align: center;">December 3rd          11:00a.m. -          12:30p.m.          In the Parish Hall</p> <hr/> <p style="text-align: center;">Donations of gently          used          Christmas items,          crafts or toys are          needed!</p>
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**WEDNESDAY NIGHT  
 SUPPERS**

**HELP NEEDED**

in the kitchen during the months of  
**February.**

To Volunteer...

Contact: Shirley Holm OR Sandie Quade

**NOVEMBER IS FOOD MONTH!**

Sunday school youth can bring  
 Non-perishable food items to class  
 To be donated to the  
 Blessing Box or Food Pantry!



## Stephen Ministry

We all go through tough times. In the midst of these times, it can be extremely helpful to have someone come alongside us to give understanding and encouragement – to provide stability, hope, and Biblical principles to help us get through the storm. That’s what a Stephen Minister is able to provide. Here at St. John, we have compassionate individuals who are trained to help us when encountering loss, grief, relationship challenges, and many other challenges that can throw our lives into a tailspin. A Stephen Minister is a caring individual who can confidentially help us navigate these times. If you’re interested in becoming a Stephen Minister, contact the church office and a Stephen Leader will get in touch with you to provide more information. We’re planning Stephen Minister training starting after the first of the year.

### **Mobile food pantry needs your help**



The Charles City mobile food pantry is an equal opportunity provider.



Delivery of food from the Northeast Iowa mobile food pantry by the St John bus is off to a wonderful start! This is a greatly needed service in our community because there are many people that qualify for food from the pantry but have mobility or transportation limitations and are unable to come to the fairgrounds to pick it up. Unfortunately, the St John bus is at its capacity and cannot fit anymore deliveries. There are many people on the waiting list. We are in need of people that can deliver food with their personal vehicles. The mobile food pantry is held the first Wednesday of the month at the Floyd county fairgrounds. Delivery vehicles will be loaded up at 6:00 pm. Deliveries are limited to within a 5 mile radius of Charles City. If you are interested in helping, call Jen Burton the mobile food pantry coordinator at 641-220-1769. Depending on the size of your vehicle, 2-4 households worth of food will likely fit in in a personal vehicle. Even if you are not able to deliver every month, we still can use your help. You do not need to be a St John member to help, anyone can help.

Thank you for your support of this ministry!

**Join us for Worship on  
December 10<sup>th</sup> as  
St John's youth present**

*The ABC's of Christmas*

**&**

*Twases of Christmas*

**Please help support...  
St. John Christian  
Preschool**

Purchase Kwik Star gift cards  
and the preschool  
receives 5% of the face value!!

Please contact Whittney or Toni  
if you are interested.



# **Free Community Thanksgiving Dinner**

Thursday, November 23, 2023

11 am – 1 pm

St John Lutheran Church

200 S Main Street

Charles City, Iowa

Come for food and fellowship!



Questions: Call Kim at 641-220-6241

For deliveries call 641-220-6241 by 3 pm Tuesday, November 20 (No Exceptions)

Deliveries will begin at 10:30 am Thursday, November 23

There is a limit of five (5) dinners per family—if need more, pick up is required.

## **Menu:**

Turkey & Ham

Mashed Potatoes & Gravy

Dressing

Green Beans

Dinner Roll

Dessert

## **Volunteers Are Welcome**