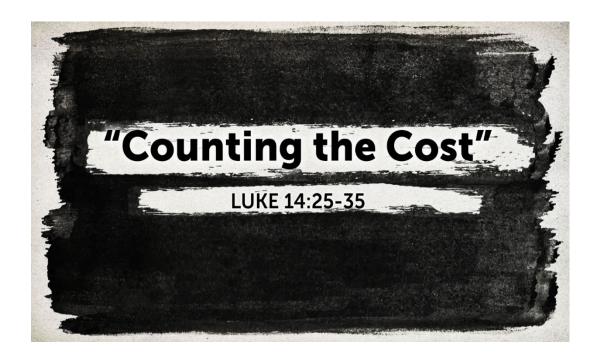


# ST. JOHN'S LUTHERAN CHURCH & SCHOOL

## **ORDER OF DIVINE SERVICE**



THIRTEENTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST
SEPTEMBER 7, 2025

## WELCOME! TODAY WE CELEBRATE THE LORD'S SUPPER!



For baptized Christians (Matthew 28:19) who have been instructed in the faith (Galatians 6:6), The Lord's Supper is our participation in the body and blood of Jesus Christ (1 Corinthians 10:16), as the one body of Christ (1 Corinthians 10:17), to receive forgiveness of sin (Matthew 26:28) and to proclaim the Lord's death until He comes (1 Corinthians 11:26).

So that those who partake of the Lord's Supper do so in a worthy manner (1 Corinthians 11:27) and not to their harm (1 Corinthians 11:29), let us each examine ourselves (1 Corinthians 11:28):

- Do you believe that you are a sinner? That you have sinned in thought, word and deed?
- *Are you sorry for your sin?*
- Do you trust that Jesus Christ gives forgiveness of sin through His Supper?
- Do you believe that the body and blood of Jesus are present in, with and under the bread and wine?
- Do you seek to lead godly lives by the power of the Holy Spirit?

Please speak to a pastor or usher if you have questions. Gluten-free wafers are provided upon request. Non-alcoholic grape juice is provided in the center of each communion tray. Those who are not communing may come forward for a blessing from the pastor.

## AS WE GATHER



Jesus is blunt about the cost of discipleship. He does not sugarcoat the life He calls us to in the baptismal waters but neither does He diminish His promises, gifts, and blessings that accompany this life of faith. Today He calls us to count the cost, knowing that the way of the Christian is constantly tested and tried by our affection for the things of this life, our

vulnerability to the enemies of the faith, and the weakness of our own sinful flesh. Part of that cost is not just in what you desire but also in what you are willing to surrender for the sake of Christ and His kingdom.

#### **PRELUDE**

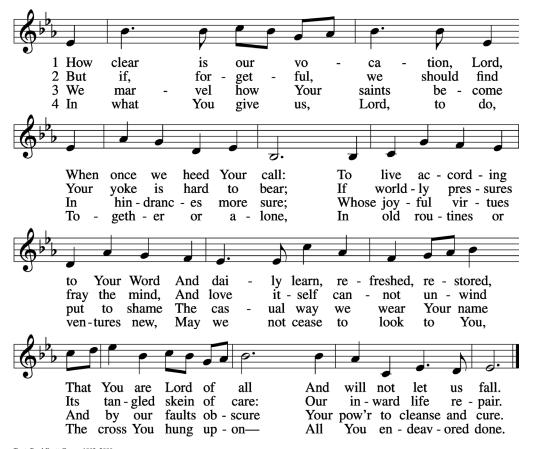
#### TOLLING OF THE BELL

#### WELCOME

#### Stand

#### INVOCATION HYMN

853 How Clear Is Our Vocation, Lord



Text: Fred Pratt Green, 1903-2000 Tune: C. Hubert H. Parry, 1848-1918

Text: © 1982 Hope Publishing Co. Used by permission: OneLicense no. 708390

Tune: Public domain

#### CONFESSION AND ABSOLUTION

- In the name of the Father and of the + Son and of the Holy Ghost.  $[\mathbf{P}]$
- $\mathbf{C}$ Amen.

- P Beloved in the Lord! Let us draw near with a true heart and confess our sins unto God our Father, beseeching Him in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ to grant us forgiveness.
- **P** Our help is in the name of the Lord,
- **C** who made heaven and earth.
- P I said, I will confess my transgressions unto the Lord,
- and Thou forgavest the iniquity of my sin.

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

#### **CONFESSION OF SINS**

O almighty God, merciful Father, I, a poor, miserable sinner, confess unto Thee all my sins and iniquities with which I have ever offended Thee and justly deserved Thy temporal and eternal punishment. But I am heartily sorry for them and sincerely repent of them, and I pray Thee of Thy boundless mercy and for the sake of the holy, innocent, bitter sufferings and death of Thy beloved Son, Jesus Christ, to be gracious and merciful to me, a poor, sinful being.

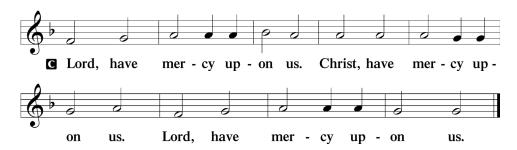
#### ABSOLUTION

- P Upon this your confession, I, by virtue of my office, as a called and ordained servant of the Word, announce the grace of God unto all of you, and in the stead and by the command of my Lord Jesus Christ I forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the 

  → Son and of the Holy Ghost.
- C Amen.



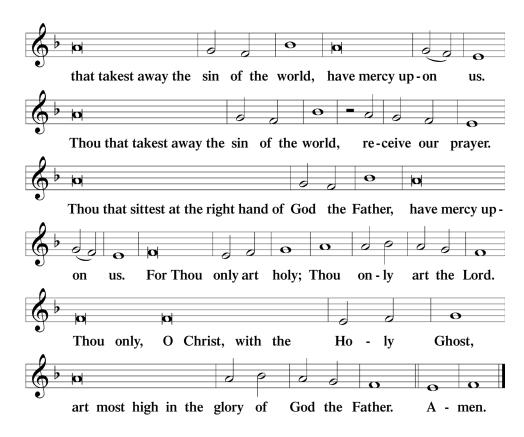
KYRIE Mark 10:47



## **FESTIVAL CANTICLE** | Gloria in Excelsis

Luke 2:14; John 1:29





#### SALUTATION AND COLLECT OF THE DAY

**P** The Lord be with you.



**P** Let us pray.

O merciful Lord, You did not spare Your only Son but delivered Him up for us all. Grant us courage and strength to take up the cross and follow Him, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.



L The Old Testament Reading is from Deuteronomy, chapter 30.

15"See, I have set before you today life and good, death and evil. 16 If you obey the commandments of the LORD your God that I command you today, by loving the LORD your God, by walking in his ways, and by keeping his commandments and his statutes and his rules, then you shall live and multiply, and the LORD your God will bless you in the land that you are entering to take possession of it. 17 But if your heart turns away, and you will not hear, but are drawn away to worship other gods and serve them, 18 I declare to you today, that you shall surely perish. You shall not live long in the land that you are going over the Jordan to enter and possess. 19 I call heaven and earth to witness against you today, that I have set before you life and death, blessing and curse. Therefore choose life, that you and your offspring may live, 20 loving the LORD your God, obeying his voice and holding fast to him, for he is your life and length of days, that you may dwell in the land that the LORD swore to your fathers, to Abraham, to Isaac, and to Jacob, to give them."

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

**PSALM**Psalm 1; antiphon: v. 6

Organ will intone, then sung by all.



Blessèd is the man who walks not in the counsel of the | wicked,\* nor stands in the way of sinners, nor sits in the seat of | scoffers;

but his delight is in the law | of the LORD,\* and on his law he meditates | day and night.



He is like a tree planted by streams of water that yields its fruit in its season,

and its leaf does not | wither.\*
In all that he does, he | prospers.

The wicked | are not so,\* but are like chaff that the wind | drives away.

Therefore the wicked will not stand in the | judgment,\* nor sinners in the congregation of the | righteous;

for the LORD knows the way of the | righteous,\* but the way of the wicked will | perish.

EPISTLE READING Philemon 1–21

■ The Epistle is from Philemon, chapter 1.

<sup>1</sup>Paul, a prisoner for Christ Jesus, and Timothy our brother,

To Philemon our beloved fellow worker <sup>2</sup> and Apphia our sister and Archippus our fellow soldier, and the church in your house:

<sup>3</sup>Grace to you and peace from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ.

<sup>4</sup>I thank my God always when I remember you in my prayers, <sup>5</sup>because I hear of your love and of the faith that you have toward the Lord Jesus and all the saints, <sup>6</sup>and I pray that the sharing of your faith may become effective for the full knowledge of every good thing that is in us for the sake of Christ. <sup>7</sup>For I have derived much joy and comfort from your love, my brother, because the hearts of the saints have been refreshed through you.

<sup>8</sup>Accordingly, though I am bold enough in Christ to command you to do what is required, <sup>9</sup>yet for love's sake I prefer to appeal to you—I, Paul, an old man and now a prisoner also for Christ Jesus— <sup>10</sup>I appeal to you for my child, Onesimus, whose father I became in my imprisonment. <sup>11</sup>(Formerly he was useless to you, but

now he is indeed useful to you and to me.) <sup>12</sup>I am sending him back to you, sending my very heart. <sup>13</sup>I would have been glad to keep him with me, in order that he might serve me on your behalf during my imprisonment for the gospel, <sup>14</sup>but I preferred to do nothing without your consent in order that your goodness might not be by compulsion but of your own free will. <sup>15</sup>For this perhaps is why he was parted from you for a while, that you might have him back forever, <sup>16</sup>no longer as a slave but more than a slave, as a beloved brother—especially to me, but how much more to you, both in the flesh and in the Lord.

<sup>17</sup>So if you consider me your partner, receive him as you would receive me. <sup>18</sup>If he has wronged you at all, or owes you anything, charge that to my account. <sup>19</sup>I, Paul, write this with my own hand: I will repay it—to say nothing of your owing me even your own self. <sup>20</sup>Yes, brother, I want some benefit from you in the Lord. Refresh my heart in Christ.

<sup>21</sup>Confident of your obedience, I write to you, knowing that you will do even more than I say.

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

Stand

### **GOSPEL ACCLAMATION**

John 6:68



THE HOLY GOSPEL Luke 14:25–35

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



<sup>25</sup>Now great crowds accompanied [Jesus], and he turned and said to them, <sup>26</sup>"If anyone comes to me and does not hate his own father and mother and wife and children and brothers and sisters, yes, and even his own life, he cannot be my

disciple. <sup>27</sup>Whoever does not bear his own cross and come after me cannot be my disciple. <sup>28</sup>For which of you, desiring to build a tower, does not first sit down and count the cost, whether he has enough to complete it? <sup>29</sup>Otherwise, when he has laid a foundation and is not able to finish, all who see it begin to mock him, <sup>30</sup>saying, 'This man began to build and was not able to finish.' <sup>31</sup>Or what king, going out to encounter another king in war, will not sit down first and deliberate whether he is able with ten thousand to meet him who comes against him with twenty thousand? <sup>32</sup>And if not, while the other is yet a great way off, he sends a delegation and asks for terms of peace. <sup>33</sup>So therefore, any one of you who does not renounce all that he has cannot be my disciple.

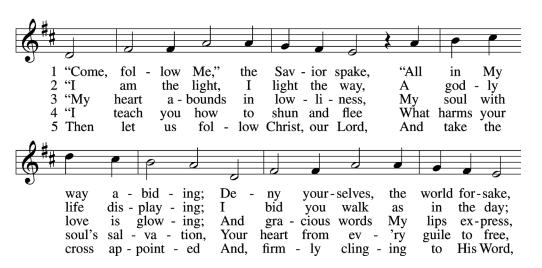
<sup>34</sup>"Salt is good, but if salt has lost its taste, how shall its saltiness be restored? <sup>35</sup>It is of no use either for the soil or for the manure pile. It is thrown away. He who has ears to hear, let him hear."

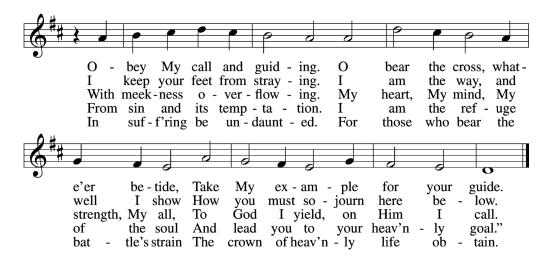
## **P** This is the Gospel of the Lord.



Sit SERMON HYMN

688 "Come, Follow Me," the Savior Spake





**SERMON** 

Jesus' Call to Discipleship

Pastor Ron Weidler

Stand

NICENE CREED

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 Ghost 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 sitteth on the right hand of the Father; and He shall come again with glory to judge both the quick and the dead; whose kingdom shall have no end.

And I believe in the Holy Ghost,

The Lord and Giver of Life,
who proceedeth from the Father and the Son,
who with the Father and the Son together is worshiped and glorified,
who spake 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.

#### Kneel

#### PRAYER OF THE CHURCH

**P** Let us pray for the whole people of God in Christ Jesus and for all people according to their needs.

For all disciples of Jesus Christ, both here at St. John's and throughout the world, that we not be overcome by evil, but overcome evil with good, let us pray to the Lord.

- **C** Bless us, Jesus, as we follow You.
- P For the fulfillment of the Great Commission, that wherever the good news of salvation in Christ is proclaimed, hearts turn to the Lord and live, let us pray to the Lord.
- **C** Bless us, Jesus, as we tell of You.
- P For all who willingly put themselves in the path of evil for the sake of other people's good, including military members, law enforcement officers, and emergency workers, that they be protected by the Lord's mighty hand, let us pray to the Lord.
- Bless us, Jesus, as we are protected by You.

- For all who ail in heart, mind, and body, [especially . . .], that they be touched by the healing hand of our Savior and filled with the presence of His comforting Spirit, let us pray to the Lord.
- Bless us, Jesus, as we are healed by You.
- **P** For these and all other concerns we have, that coming before the throne of grace we find mercy to help us in our time of need, let us pray to the Lord.
- **©** Bless us, Jesus, as we trust You to hear and answer our prayers. Amen.

Sit

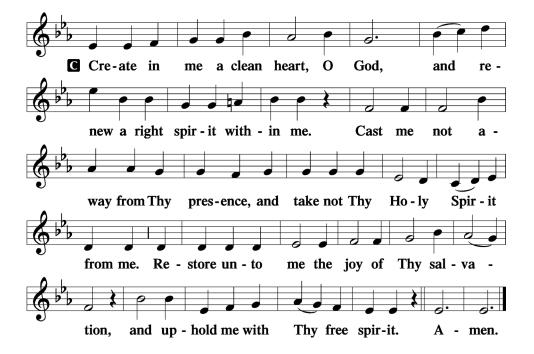
#### **OFFERING**



#### STEWARDSHIP OF TREASURE

Use this QR Code to give a one-time or recurring donation to the fund of your choice, by credit/debit card, or checking account

OFFERTORY Psalm 51:10–12



## SERVICE OF THE SACRAMENT

#### **PREFACE**

2 Timothy 4:22; [Colossians 3:1]; [Psalm 136]

**P** The Lord be with you.



**P** Lift up your hearts.

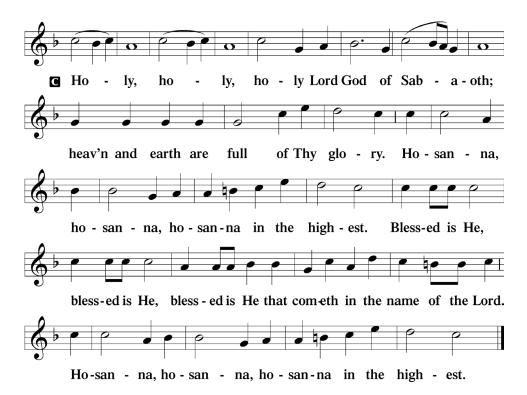


**P** Let us give thanks unto the Lord, our God.



P It is truly meet, 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:



LORD'S PRAYER Matthew 6:9–13

- P Lord, remember us in Your kingdom and teach us to pray:
- 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.

#### THE WORDS OF OUR LORD

P Our Lord Jesus Christ, on the night when He was betrayed, took bread, and when He had given thanks, He brake it and gave it to His disciples saying

"Take eat; this is My body, which is given for you. This do in remembrance of Me."

After the same manner also, He took the cup when He had supped, and when He had given thanks, He gave it to them, saying, "Drink ye all of it; this cup is the New Testament in My Blood, which is shed for you for the remission of sins. This do, as oft ye drink it, in remembrance of Me."

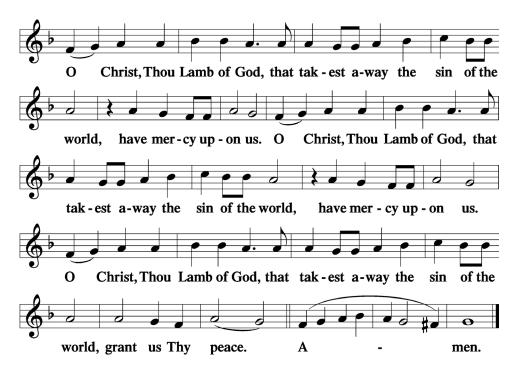
PAX DOMINI John 20:19

**P** The peace of the Lord be with you always.

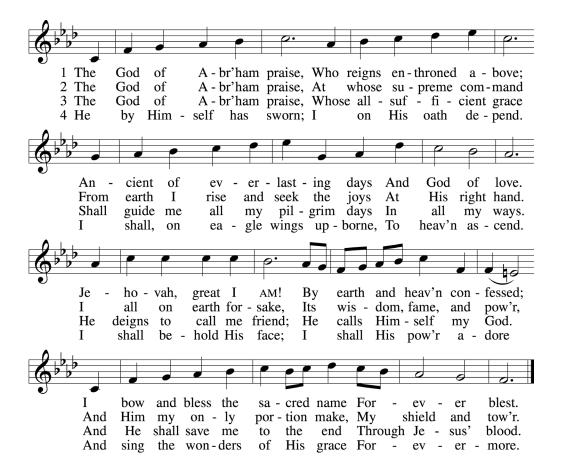


The people may greet one another in the name of the Lord, saying, "Peace be with you," as a sign of reconciliation and of the unity of the Spirit in the bond of peace (Matt. 5:22–24; Eph. 4:1–3).

AGNUS DEI John 1:29



#### **DISTRIBUTION HYMN**



- Though nature's strength decay,
  And earth and hell withstand,
  To Canaan's bounds I urge my way
  At His command.
  The wat'ry deep I pass,
  With Jesus in my view,
  And through the howling
  wilderness My way pursue.
- 6 The goodly land I see, With peace and plenty blest: A land of sacred liberty And endless rest. There milk and honey flow, And oil and wine abound, And trees of life forever grow With mercy crowned.

- 7 There dwells the Lord our king,
  The Lord our righteousness,
  Triumphant o'er the world and sin,
  The Prince of Peace.
  On Zion's sacred height
  His kingdom He maintains
  And glorious with His saints in light
  Forever reigns.
- 8 The God who reigns on high The great archangels sing, And "Holy, holy, holy!" cry, "Almighty King! Who was and is the same

And evermore shall be: Jehovah, Father, great I AM! We worship Thee!"

△ 9 The whole triumphant host
 Give thanks to God on high.
 "Hail, Father, Son, and Holy Ghost!"
 They ever cry.
 Hail, Abr'ham's God and mine!
 I join the heav'nly lays:
 All might and majesty are Thine
 And endless praise!

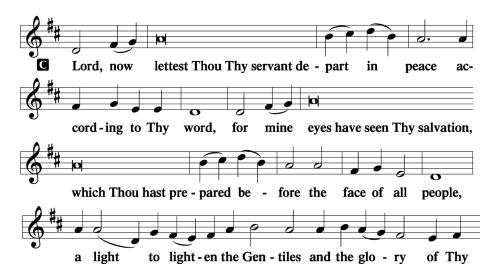
#### Stand

#### DISMISSAL

- P The body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen and preserve you in body and soul to life everlasting. Depart 

  → in peace.
- C Amen.

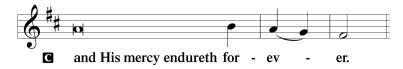
## NUNC DIMITTIS Luke 2:29–32





THANKSGIVING Psalm 107:1

P O give thanks unto the Lord, for He is good,



**P** 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.



SALUTATION 2 Timothy 4:22

**P** The Lord be with you.



BENEDICAMUS Psalm 103:1

**P** Bless we the Lord.

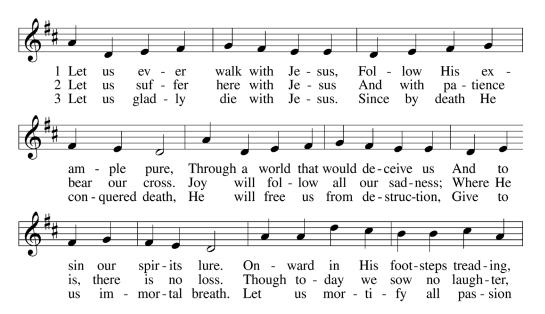


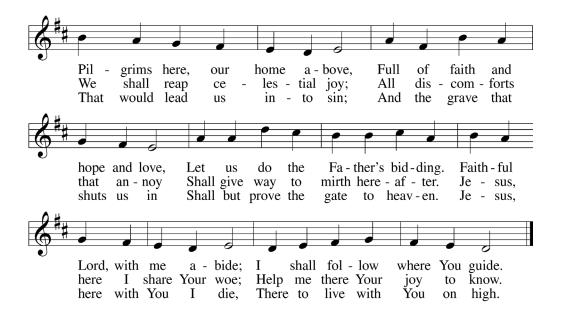
**BENEDICTION**Numbers 6:24–26



#### **CLOSING HYMN**

685 Let Us Ever Walk with Jesus





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Tune: Georg G. Boltze, 18th cent.

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#### ANNOUNCEMENTS

#### **POSTLUDE**

#### SERVING IN OUR WORSHIP

Rev Ron Weidler, Homilist Rev. Mark Stapleton, Liturgist Dr. Marc Brunelle, Director of Music/Organist Lynne Braun, Lector (8:00am) , Lector (10:45am)



#### **ALTAR FLOWERS**

Flowers on the Altar today are dedicated by Gary and Nancy Mayor in memory of the nearly 3,000 innocent victims of the terror attacks in New York, Pennsylvania, and Washington D.C. on September 11, 2001, and to all those who have sacrificed and served our freedom over the last 24 years. On Thursday, Patriot Day, the National Day of Service and Remembrance, may

we all find ways to serve others in need, and pray that God will bring peace and healing to this world. We will never forget.

## **CANTATA CHOIR VOICE TRIALS**

We are currently holding informal voice trials for those that wish to become a member of the Cantata Choir. This gives us a chance to hear you sing, for proper placement in the choir, and to review the expectations. All voice parts are welcome. A strong commitment to the rehearsal and service schedule is expected. We will hold voice trials on **Sunday**, **September 7** beginning at **12:15pm -1:15pm** in fifteen-minute increments in the choir room. To sign up, and for more information, please email Marc at <a href="mailto:m.brunelle@stjohnslagrange.org">m.brunelle@stjohnslagrange.org</a>.

## **JUBILATION RINGERS**

We would like to bring back our handbell choir, but we need your time and talent. If you can read music and commit to the rehearsal schedule, please consider joining us. Rehearsals will take place on Sundays after the 10:45am service beginning on Sunday, September 21. A detailed rehearsal and ringing schedule is available. To sign up, and for more information, please email Marc at <a href="mailto:m.brunelle@stjohnslagrange.org">m.brunelle@stjohnslagrange.org</a>

## MUSIC FUND OF ST. JOHN'S



The Music Ministry here at St. John's is wholly reliant on the generosity of the members of the congregation through contributions to the Music Fund. The fund supports our efforts to provide uplifting and inspirational sacred vocal and instrumental music that enhances our experience of our worship to God. The

three pillars of Stewardship: time, talent and treasure are essential for any music program to thrive and grow. Therefore, the Board of Worship would like to encourage you to consider donating to the Music Fund. There are white envelopes in the pews, or you can donate online.

#### **ACKNOWLEDGMENTS**

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"For which of you, desiring to build a tower, does not first sit down and count the cost, whether he has enough to complete it?" - Luke



**EQUIPPING † ENGAGING † ENCOURAGING** 

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