



A Christmas Festival of
**NINE LESSONS
AND CAROLS**

**Sunday, December 14
7:00pm**

The Cantata Choir of St. John's
Jubilation Ringers
Dana Shinneman, Piano
Dr. Marc Brunelle, Director of Music

St. John's Lutheran Church & School
505 S. Park Road, LaGrange, IL 60525
708-354-1690 Ext. 222

Reception to follow
Free-will offering
Plenty of free parking



ST. JOHN'S LUTHERAN CHURCH & SCHOOL

ORDER OF DIVINE SERVICE



THANKSGIVING DAY

NOVEMBER 27, 2025

EQUIPPING ✝ ENGAGING ✝ ENCOURAGING

St. John's Lutheran Church and School
505 S. Park Rd. La Grange, IL 60525
www.sjlagrange.com
708-354-1690



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



Did you give thanks for your last meal? Most people—even Christians—often “forget” to give thanks. When we do not give thanks, we are like the rich fool of the parable, thinking it was his work that brought the grain, when in fact it was God who gave it to Him. When we do not give thanks, we become fools, forgetting who gave us what we have and all we are. Have you been foolish? That is what Jesus calls the rich man. Give thanks always—that is the advice of Paul. Above all, give thanks for the cross and the empty tomb, which opens heaven to us.

THE PRELUDE

TOLLING OF THE BELL

WELCOME



THE TOWER CHORALE presents
THE HARMONY OF HAPPY HOLIDAYS

Patrick Godon
Music Director

Saturday, December 6
4:00 pm

Sunday, December 7
4:00 pm

St. John's Lutheran Church
505 S. Park Road
La Grange, IL

Adult \$25
Senior \$22
Student \$15
Child 10 and under FREE

THE TOWER CHORALE
40TH ANNIVERSARY SEASON

TOWERCHORALE.ORG

Illinois ARTS Council

Sit

ANNOUNCEMENTS

POSTLUDE

SERVING IN WORSHIP

Rev. Mark Stapleton, Homilist & Liturgist
Dr. Marc Brunelle, Director of Music/Organist
The Cantata Choir of St. John’s
Dana Shinneman, Piano
Katie Pece, Lector
Holly Hemminger, Mallory Buckley, Acolyte

ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

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ADVENT MIDWEEK VESPERS SERVICE	Wednesday, Dec. 3, 7PM
ADVENT MIDWEEK VESPERS SERVICE	Wednesday, Dec. 10, 7PM
A CHRISTMAS FESTIVAL OF NINE LESSONS & CAROLS	Sunday, Dec. 14, 7:00PM
ADVENT MIDWEEK VESPERS SERVICE	Wednesday, Dec. 17, 7PM
CHRISTMAS EVE FAMILY SERVICE	Tuesday, Dec. 24, 4:30PM
(Featuring the Jubilation Ringers)	Tuesday Dec. 24, 10:00PM
CHORAL PRELUDE	
CHRISTMAS EVE CANDELIGHT SERVICE	Tuesday, Dec. 24, 10:30PM
(Featuring the Cantata Choir and The Royal String Quartet)	
CHRISTMAS DAY WORSHIP SERVICE	Wednesday, Dec. 25, 10AM

Stand

INVOCATION HYMN

892 Come, Ye Thankful People, Come

Choir will sing verse 3



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 Thou 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.

CONFESSON AND ABSOLUTION

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.
- C** But if we confess our sins, God, who is faithful and just, will forgive our sins and cleanse us from all unrighteousness.

Kneel

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

P Let us then confess our sins to God our Father.

C **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.**

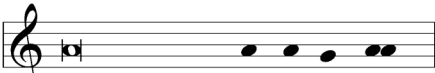
P Almighty God in His mercy has given His Son to die for you and for His sake forgives you all your sins. As a called and ordained servant of Christ, and by His authority, I therefore forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the ✠ Son and of the Holy Spirit.

C **Amen.**

SERVICE OF THE WORD

Stand

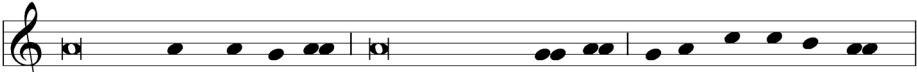
KYRIE Mark 10:47



A In peace let us pray to the Lord.



C Lord, have mer - cy.



A For the peace from a-bove and for our sal-va-tion let us pray to the Lord.



C Lord, have mer - cy.

POST-COMMUNION COLLECT

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.

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

894 For the Fruits of His Creation



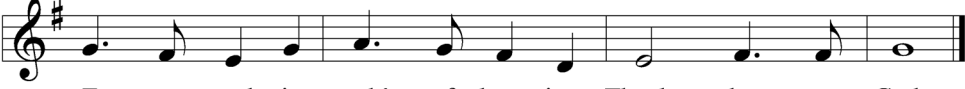
1 For the fruits of His cre - a - tion, Thanks be to God.
2 In the just re - ward of la - bor, God's will is done.
3 For the har-vests of the Spir - it, Thanks be to God.



For His gifts to ev - 'ry na - tion, Thanks be to God. For the
In the help we give our neigh-bor, God's will is done. In our
For the good we all in - her - it, Thanks be to God. For the



plow - ing, sow-ing, reap-ing, Si - lent growth while we are sleep-ing,
world-wide task of car - ing For the hun - gry and de - spair-ing,
won - ders that as-tound us, For the truths that still con-found us,



Fu - ture needs in earth's safe-keep-ing, Thanks be to God.
In the har-vests we are shar-ing, God's will is done.
Most of all, that love has found us, Thanks be to God.



1 O bless the Lord, my soul! Let all with - in me join
2 O bless the Lord, my soul, Nor let His mer - cies lie
3 'Tis He for - gives thy sins; 'Tis He re - lieves thy pain;
4 He crowns thy life with love When ran - somed from the grave;



And aid my tongue to bless His name Whose fa - vors are di - vine.
For - got - ten in un - thank - ful - ness And with - out prais - es die!
'Tis He that heals thy sick - ness - es And makes thee young a - gain.
He that re - deemed my soul from hell Hath sov - 'reign pow'r to save.

Stand

THE 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.
- G** Amen.

CANTICLE

Psalm 105:1–3, 42–43; 1 Chronicles 16:8–10



G Thank the Lord and sing His praise; tell ev-'ry-one what He has done.



Let all who seek the Lord re - joice and proud-ly bear His name.



He re - calls His prom - is - es and leads His peo - ple forth in joy



with shouts of thanks - giv - ing. Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.



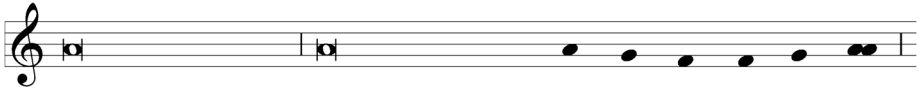
A For the peace of the whole world, for the well-being of the Church of God,



and for the uni - ty of all let us pray to the Lord.



G Lord, have mer - cy.



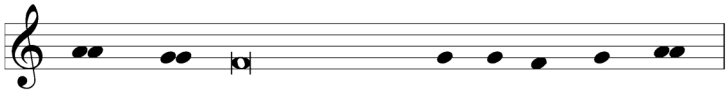
A For this holy house and for all who offer here their wor - ship and praise



let us pray to the Lord.



G Lord, have mer - cy.



A Help, save, comfort, and de - fend us, gra - cious Lord.



G A - men.

HYMN OF PRAISE | This Is the Feast

Revelation 5:12–13; 19:5–9



G This is the feast of vic - to - ry for our God.



Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.

1 — Wor - thy is Christ, the Lamb who was slain, whose
2 Pow - er, rich - es, wis - dom, and strength, and
3 Sing with all the peo - ple of God, and
4 Bless - ing, hon - or, glo - ry, and might be to
5 For the Lamb ——— who was slain has be -

blood set us free to be peo - ple of God. *Refrain*
hon - or, bless - ing, and glo - ry are His. *Refrain*
join in the hymn of all cre - a - tion: *Stanza 4*
God and the Lamb for - ev - er. A - men. *Refrain*
gun His reign. Al - le - lu - ia. *Final Refrain*

Final Refrain
This is the feast of vic - to - ry for our God.

Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.

SALUTATION AND COLLECT OF THE DAY

P The Lord be with you.

C And also with you.

P Let us pray.

Almighty God, Your mercies are new every morning and You graciously provide for all our needs of body and soul. Grant us Your Holy Spirit that we may acknowledge Your goodness, give thanks for Your benefits, and serve You in willing obedience all our days; through Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C Amen.

Sit

AGNUS DEI

John 1:29

C Lamb of God, You take a - way the sin of the world; have
mer - cy on us. Lamb of God, You take a - way the sin of the
world; have mer - cy on us. Lamb of God, You take a - way the
sin of the world; grant us peace.

Sit

DISTRIBUTION HYMNS

893 Sing to the Lord of Harvest

1 Sing to the Lord of har - vest, Sing songs of love and praise;
2 God makes the clouds rain good - ness, The des - erts bloom and spring,
3 Bring to this sa - cred al - tar The gifts His good - ness gave,
With joy - ful hearts and voic - es Your al - le - lu - ias raise.
The hills leap up in glad - ness, The val - leys laugh and sing.
The gold - en sheaves of har - vest, The souls Christ died to save.
By Him the roll - ing sea - sons In fruit - ful or - der move;
God fills them with His full - ness, All things with large in - crease;
Your hearts lay down be - fore Him When at His feet you fall,
Sing to the Lord of har - vest A joy - ous song of love.
He crowns the year with bless - ing, With plen - ty and with peace.
And with your lives a - dore Him Who gave His life for all.

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 ✝ blood, which is shed for you for the forgiveness of sins. This do, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of Me.”

- P** 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

- C** **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

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

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).

FIRST READING

Deuteronomy 8:1–10

- L** The Old Testament Reading is from Deuteronomy, chapter 8.

“The whole commandment that I command you today you shall be careful to do, that you may live and multiply, and go in and possess the land that the LORD swore to give to your fathers. And you shall remember the whole way that the LORD your God has led you these forty years in the wilderness, that he might humble you, testing you to know what was in your heart, whether you would keep his commandments or not. And he humbled you and let you hunger and fed you with manna, which you did not know, nor did your fathers know, that he might make you know that man does not live by bread alone, but man lives by every word that comes from the mouth of the LORD. Your clothing did not wear out on you and your foot did not swell these forty years. Know then in your heart that, as a man disciplines his son, the LORD your God disciplines you. So you shall keep the commandments of the LORD your God by walking in his ways and by fearing him. For the LORD your God is bringing you into a good land, a land of brooks of water, of fountains and springs, flowing out in the valleys and hills, a land of wheat and barley, of vines and fig trees and pomegranates, a land of olive trees and honey, a land in which you will eat bread without scarcity, in which you will lack nothing, a land whose stones are iron, and out of whose hills you can dig copper. And you shall eat and be full, and you shall bless the LORD your God for the good land he has given you.”

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

PSALM

Psalm 67

- L** May God be gracious to us and bless us and make his face to shine upon us, that your way may be known on earth, your saving power among all nations.
- C** **Let the peoples praise you, O God; let all the peoples praise you!**
- L** Let the nations be glad and sing for joy, for you judge the peoples with equity and guide the nations upon earth.
- C** **Let the peoples praise you, O God; let all the peoples praise you!**
- L** The earth has yielded its increase; God, our God, shall bless us.
- C** **God shall bless us; let all the ends of the earth fear him!**

THE EPISTLE

1 Timothy 2:1-4

L The Epistle is from 1 Timothy, chapter 2.

First of all, then, I urge that supplications, prayers, intercessions, and thanksgivings be made for all people, ²for kings and all who are in high positions, that we may lead a peaceful and quiet life, godly and dignified in every way. ³This is good, and it is pleasing in the sight of God our Savior, ⁴who desires all people to be saved and to come to the knowledge of the truth.

L This is the Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

Stand

ALLELUIA

John 6:68

Al - le - lu - ia. Lord, to whom shall we go? You have the words of e - ter - nal life. Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.

HOLY GOSPEL

Luke 17:11-19

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

C Glory to You, O Lord.

On the way to Jerusalem [Jesus] was passing along between Samaria and Galilee. ¹²And as he entered a village, he was met by ten lepers, who stood at a distance ¹³and lifted up their voices, saying, "Jesus, Master, have mercy on us." ¹⁴When he saw them he said to them, "Go and show yourselves to the priests." And as they went they were cleansed. ¹⁵Then one of them, when he saw that he was healed, turned back, praising God with a loud voice; ¹⁶and he fell on his face at Jesus' feet, giving him thanks. Now he was a Samaritan. ¹⁷Then Jesus answered, "Were not ten cleansed? Where are the nine? ¹⁸Was no one found to return and give praise to God except this foreigner?" ¹⁹And he said to him, "Rise and go your way; your faith has made you well."

P This is the Gospel of the Lord.

C Praise to You, O Christ.

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.

P 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 on this day overcame death and the grave and by His glorious resurrection opened to us the way of everlasting life. Therefore with angels and archangels and with all the company of heaven we laud and magnify Your glorious name, evermore praising You and saying:

SANCTUS

Isaiah 6:3; Matthew 21:9

Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow'r and might: Heav-en and earth are full of Your glo - ry. Ho - san-na. Ho - san-na. Ho - san - na in the high - est. Bless - ed is He who comes in the name of the Lord. Ho-san-na in the high - est.

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 broke it and gave it to the disciples and said: "Take, eat; this is My  body, which is given for you. This do in remembrance of Me."

ANTHEM

FOR THE BEAUTY OF THE EARTH | John Rutter (b.1945)

*For the beauty of the earth, for the beauty of the skies,
for the love which from our birth, over and around us lies.
Lord of all, to thee we raise this our joyful hymn of praise.*

Stand
OFFERTORY

Psalm 116:12–13, 17–19

C What shall I ren-der to the Lord for all His ben-e-fits to
me? I will of - fer the sac-ri-fice of thanks-giv - ing and will
call on the name of the Lord. I will take the cup of sal-
va - tion and will call on the name of the Lord. I will pay my
vows to the Lord now in the pres - ence of all His peo-ple, in the
courts of the Lord's house, in the midst of you, O Je - ru - sa - lem.

SERVICE OF THE SACRAMENT

PREFACE *2 Timothy 4:22; Colossians 3:1; Psalm 136*

- P** The Lord be with you.
- C** And also with you.

Sit
CHILDREN’S SERMON

The children are invited to gather in front of the Altar.

SERMON HYMN 785 We Praise You, O God

1 We praise You, O God, our Re - deem - er, Cre - a - tor;
2 We wor - ship You, God of our fa - thers, we bless You;
3 With voic - es u - nit - ed our prais - es we of - fer
In grate - ful de - vo - tion our trib - ute we bring.
Through tri - al and tem - pest our guide You have been.
And glad - ly our songs of thanks - giv - ing we raise.
We lay it be - fore You, we kneel and a - dore You;
When per - ils o’er - take us, You will not for - sake us,
With You, Lord, be - side us, Your strong arm will guide us.
We bless Your ho - ly name, glad prais - es we sing.
And with Your help, O Lord, our strug - gles we win.
To You, our great Re - deem - er, for - ev - er be praise!

SERMON Your Faith Has Made You Well
Pastor Mark Stapleton

Stand
AFFIRMATION OF FAITH

Spoken antiphonally between the left and right sides of the congregation.

LUTHER’S EXPLANATION OF THE FIRST ARTICLE OF THE APOSTLES CREED

Left
I believe that God has made me and all creatures;

Right
That He has given me my body and soul, eyes, ears, and all my members, my reason and all senses, and still takes care of them.

Left
He also gives me clothing and shoes, food and drink, house and home, wife and children, land, animals, and all I have.

Right
He richly and daily provides me with all that I need to support this body and life.

Left
He defends me against all danger and guards and protects me from all evil.

Right
All this He does only out of fatherly, divine goodness and mercy, without any merit or worthiness in me.

All
For all this it is my duty to thank and praise, serve and obey Him.
This is most certainly true.

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.
Lord, on this day we thank You for Your bountiful gifts to all of us. We remember Your many acts of kindness to Your people through all ages. We bless You for the orderly progression of the seasons and thank You for the bountiful harvest of the fruits of the earth. Lord, in Your mercy,

C hear our prayer.
- P** We thank You for the Church, asking that the message of salvation joyfully be proclaimed throughout all the world. Bless the work of missionaries, teachers, health workers, and all others who share their faith in countless ways. Lord, in Your mercy,

C hear our prayer.

- P** We thank You for the world in which we live and pray for the community of nations. Continue to give us all things needful, and grant that we be good stewards of the earth. Lord, in Your mercy,

C hear our prayer.
- P** We thank You for the faithful labor of people living out their vocations for our welfare. Today we ask a special blessing on the military forces of our nation, those stationed both at home and abroad, whose efforts serve to defend our nation in challenging times and who guarantee our safety in times of peace. And we remember those whose labor brings food to our tables in this and in every season. Lord, in Your mercy,

C hear our prayer.
- P** We thank You that Your care embraces all people as we remember those with special concerns and needs including the ill, hospitalized, and those shut-in, [*including . . .*], those who sorrow, the unemployed, and underemployed. Help us to find purpose and blessing in assisting those who need the care and compassion that we can offer them. Lord, in Your mercy,

C hear our prayer.
- P** Merciful God, in our thankful remembrance we recall those no longer among us on earth, who now rejoice in the glorious light of Your heavenly kingdom. Grant that we be inspired by their faithful witness as we look forward to that time when we rejoice together at Your heavenly throne, giving You eternal thanks and praise. Lord, in Your mercy,

C hear our prayer. 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.