



# St. John Lutheran Church

FREEDOM TOWNSHIP

16035 CO. RD. U • NAPOLEON, OH 43545

## Serving Christ in Freedom

*Worship • Stewardship • Mission*

November 6, 2022

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Rev. Stephen J. Niermann, Pastor  
Miss Tracy Germann, Principal

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### ALL SAINTS DAY (observed)

Sermon & Text: "A Different Take on Blessedness" *Revelation 7:2-17*

Order of Service: See printed Service Folder

Hymns: **670 ~ 982 ~ 675 ~ 677** ~ [Communion: **672, 671, 517**] ~ **667**

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### WELCOME TO OUR VISITORS

*You are invited to worship with us in the quiet of prayer, in the joy of song, and in the desire to grow in the grace and knowledge of our Lord Jesus Christ. As we gather at the Lord's Table today, we also unite with all the saints to celebrate God's feast of victory. Here He nourishes us with the food and drink of the full assurance of our salvation in Him. Please fill out the Rite of Fellowship card from the pew rack in front of you and place it in the basket at the door as you leave today.*

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### **SERVING IN GOD'S HOUSE THIS MORNING**

- ✘ Renee Petzoldt, *Organist* ✘ Garrison Kruse, Alex Wachtman, *Acolytes* ✘
- ✘ Neil Badenhop, Doug Dietrich, Joe Badenhop, *Ushers* ✘
- ✘ Lou Ann Rosebrock, Diane Von Deylen, *Altar Guild* ✘

**ALL SAINTS COMMEMORATION TODAY** – On this Sunday after *All Saints Day* (Nov. 1<sup>st</sup>) we take time in our worship to remember all the saints, and most especially those of our congregation who departed to be with the Lord since our last celebration of All Saints:



- |                                    |                                     |
|------------------------------------|-------------------------------------|
| <b>Clara Meyer</b> (†-Nov 6)       | <b>Hildegard Behrmann</b> (†-Apr 8) |
| <b>Paula Taft</b> (†-Jan 7)        | <b>Florence Jones</b> (†-Apr 16)    |
| <b>John Damman</b> (†-Jan 24)      | <b>Mabel Bischoff</b> (†-May 12)    |
| <b>William McCarthy</b> (†-Feb 17) | <b>Ruth Mahnke</b> (†-Jun 14)       |
| <b>Evelyn Rohrs</b> (†-Mar 3)      | <b>Henry Gerken</b> (†-Jul 22)      |
| <b>Bill Von Deylen</b> (†-Mar 15)  | <b>Donald Landry</b> (†-Sep 13)     |

The saints with Christ in heaven are often symbolized by stalks of wheat gathered in or around a crown. This symbol brings to mind two comforting Bible passages: "**He will gather His wheat into His barn**" (*Matt 3:12*), and "**Be faithful unto death, and I will give you the crown of life**" (*Rev 2:10*). Today, as Christ's saints on earth, we rejoice with all the saints who wear the crown and are gathered like wheat into a barn around the Lamb of God. As one Church we raise our voices to praise Him whose shed blood washes us and makes us saints – holy in the sight of God!

## In God's House This Week

Online church calendar: [www.DynaCal.com/sjl](http://www.DynaCal.com/sjl)

Date	Time	Activities
Today	9:00 AM 10:20AM	<b>All Saints Communion Service</b> Adult Bible Study; Sunday School; "The Lamp"
Mon.	7:00 PM	PTL Meeting
Tue.	8:35 AM 7:00 PM	<b>School Chapel</b> Church Council Meeting
Wed.	6:15 PM	Midweek Confirmation Class ( <i>until 7:30 PM</i> )
Thurs.	3:30 PM	Parent/Teachers Conferences
Sun.	9:00 AM 10:20AM	<b>Worship Service with Communion following</b> Adult Bible Study; Sunday School; "The Lamp"
Mon.-Sat	7:30 AM	Morning Meditations, WONW 1280 AM

**MATTERS FOR PRAYER** – Please keep these people in your prayers:

- ❖ *Melba Elling, Lorna Von Deylen, Norma Damman*, at Genacross – Napoleon
- ❖ *Lawrence Behrmann*, at Northcrest Nursing & Rehab
- ❖ *Esther Layton*, at Defiance Hospice Center
- ❖ *Military: Justin Atkinson, Jason Rohrs, Emily Niermann, Jared Dishop, Jordan Lange*
- ❖ *Sue Hurst and Dave Crandall*, health concerns related to cancer
- ❖ *Pat Kramer*, recovering from surgery to further prepare her leg for a prosthesis
- ❖ *Casen Lawrence*, who has been seriously ill and hospitalized
- ❖ *Rose Leonard*, who is recovering at home after being hospitalized with RSV
- ❖ *The Family of Patty Nicol*, who mourn Patty's passing on Thurs., Nov. 3<sup>rd</sup>. She completed her race and reached the finish line very peacefully. Patty is the sister of *Bonnie Niermann, Nancy Nemoyer*, and *Mike Nicol*. Please pray for comfort for them as well as their families.

**ALTAR FLOWERS** are placed today in loving memory of Clara Meyer by her family. Clara departed this life for her heavenly home one year ago today. We give thanks for her long life of faith and her loving example.

## **TRUNK-or-TREAT THANKS**

Many, many thanks to everyone who participated in our first-ever Trunk-or-Treat. It was a fun and successful time with welcoming others, building relationships, and letting all the youth (*and adults*) have some fun here at St. John! We hope everyone had a great time! ~ The Stewardship Board, (Char, Cheryl, Kelly, Pastor, & Randy)



**SCAM E-MAIL ALERT** – It has been reported that a scam email is out there that appears to be from Pastor Niermann, asking you to purchase gift cards as a way of rewarding the staff. **Do not respond if you receive such an email.** It is a scam!

**NOMINATION PROCESS BEGINS** – The Stewardship Board is beginning the process of nominating individuals for the various offices of our congregation. Please keep this process in prayer, as it is often difficult to identify willing candidates. And please, if you are asked about accepting a nomination, give it prayerful thought, and consider how God may want to use you in service to His people, for the blessing of us all!

## NEW SUNDAY BIBLE STUDY BEGINS TODAY

### **Christians in a Woke World - A Call to Courage, Confession and LOVE**

**It's a different world we live in now. A world many of us barely recognize.** Victimhood is power. You can be 'cancelled' for even reasonable viewpoints. Employers force employees to train for cultural sensitivity, and one misspoken word can get you fired. Discriminating on the basis of race is good and righteous, and it is considered racist not to do so. Words like *woke*, *white privilege*, *Cis*, *non-binary*, *cultural appropriation*, *critical race theory*, and *antiracism* have formed a new vocabulary.

**What's going on?** Some have referred to these trends as 'cultural Marxism.' Group identity (by gender, race, sexual orientation, etc.) is emphasized over individuality, and groups are pitted against each other as oppressors or oppressed. How do we as Christians make sense of all this? How should we respond as witness for Christ? Join us for this new Bible study on Sunday mornings:

### **Christians in a Woke World ♦ A Call to Courage, Confession and LOVE**

We will analyze this new Marxism from a Biblical perspective, and find courage to confess the truth to this 'Woke' world that our true identity is in Christ. We are not defined by any humanly devised identity group, but by the cross at which ALL of us were redeemed to be the children of God.



<u>FINANCIAL FACTS:</u>	Home Fund	Synod & Missions	Building Fund
Weekly Need	\$9,792.78	\$500.00	\$961.54
Rec'd 10/30/22	\$6,686.00	\$850.00	\$425.00

ATTENDANCE: Thursday – 40; Sunday – 169



**LOOKING AHEAD TO CHRISTMAS DECORATING** – A day for decorating the sanctuary for Christmas has been tentatively set for Monday, Nov. 28 (the Monday after Thanksgiving). We plan to gather in the late afternoon or early evening. Everyone is welcome to come and join the fun!

**BULLETIN STUFFER VOLUNTEERS:** Want to get involved? Why not try volunteering to help with stuffing the bulletins for worship services. It's not too difficult and can be done either at church or in the comfort of your own home. The bulletins are pre-folded. If anyone is willing to donate a little time toward stuffing bulletins, we are looking for about 11-12 couples/families to sign up for this task in 2023. If you feel you would like to give this a try, please sign up on the sheet at the narthex table. You can even pick the month that works best for you. We can accommodate your busy schedules. **NOTE:** *If you have stuffed bulletins in the past year, thank you for your service. We ask that you please sign up again and choose your month. You can also call Lori Langenhop at 419-598-8151 or email her at [lahop@bright.net](mailto:lahop@bright.net).*

**PTL MEETING:** The next PTL meeting will be held Mon., Nov. 7<sup>th</sup> at 7:00 PM in the Fellowship Hall. The success of the PTL depends on parental involvement. We are still in need of PTL officers for this school year. Please plan to attend the meeting, bring your ideas, and support the school.

**A REMINDER:** If you are the LAST person to leave the building at the end of the day or after a meeting, etc., please make sure that the hallway and restroom lights are turned off and that the main entry doors (*where the buzzer is located*) are closed. With a tight budget, every little bit of electrical savings will benefit the church and closing the doors assures the safety of the building. Thank you!

**LADIES OF ST. JOHN:** The 2023 Booklet for the *Women of Freedom (LWML)* is being edited. All women of the Lutheran Church are considered members of the LWML. If you would like to be listed as an *active* member please contact *Linda Riefers*. Call 419-267-3366 or e-mail [rie307w@bright.net](mailto:rie307w@bright.net). Current members please note any change of address or phone contact; and also, if you would like to have your e-mail added. *Women of Freedom* meetings are the 3rd Tuesday of the month with no meetings in January, February, June, August and December. Special optional activities are planned in February, June, and December. We serve funerals on request and volunteer our services as needed in the church. A warm welcome to any and all!

**BOYS & GIRLS BASKETBALL:** The 2022-2023 basketball season is fast approaching with practices scheduled to begin this week. The 3-6 grade teams (both boys and girls) will consist of any active church member's children that are currently in grades 3 to 6 and are interested in participating this year. **Girls practices are Mon/Wed/Fri from 4-5:30 PM. Boys basketball practice began on Thurs., Nov. 3<sup>rd</sup>.** Please contact AD, Joe Badenhop at 419-438-5435 if your child is interested.

**SPORTS SCHEDULE:** To view the most recent sports schedule, please go to AD Joe Badenhop's "Calendar" in Fast Direct, as this is where he will post the sports schedules and any changes. Simply go to either FastDirect directly (*thru the school*) or you can enter the church's website ([www.sjl.org](http://www.sjl.org)), click on "School" at the top of page, click on "FastDirect School Info. System" on the left side of page, then click on "BulletinBoard/Calendar" on the left side of page, and scroll down to Joe Badenhop, Athletic Director and click on **his** "Calendar".

**WREATHS ACROSS AMERICA:** The Ridgeville Sons of the American Legion are asking you to join them in their mission to place "wreaths across America" in 2022. National Wreaths Across American Day is Sat., Dec. 17, 2022. Sponsored wreaths are placed on grave markers at state and national veterans' cemeteries, as well as at local, community cemeteries each December. Wreath Sponsorship forms and more information is available on the narthex table. Wreaths may also be sponsored online at [www.wreathscrossamerica.org/OH0229P](http://www.wreathscrossamerica.org/OH0229P) or via the QR code on the sponsorship form. **Order deadline is Wed., Nov. 23<sup>rd</sup>.**

**AREA EVENTS:** **Napoleon Zone Christian Life Workshop** will be held on Sat., Nov. 12<sup>th</sup> at 9:00 AM at St. Paul Lutheran Church – Flatrock, 12-868 County Road K, Napoleon. Join us in Fellowship and Bible Study! See posted flyer!

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**Food For Thought...**

**"In new Jerusalem joy shall be found, Blessings of peace forever abound!" LSB 675**

*"For the LORD takes pleasure in his people; he adorns the humble with salvation." Psa. 149:4*