

Nineteenth Sunday after Pentecost October 8, 2023 | 10:30 AM



All are welcome at Saint John's regardless of race, culture, ethnicity, age, gender expression or identity, sexual orientation, physical or mental ability, socioeconomic position, immigration path, or faith journey. We believe that a diverse and inclusive congregation benefits all, and that we grow when we listen to and learn from those who are different from us. Scripture teaches us to do good and seek justice, and we invite you to join us in striving for a just world. We are committed to continuing the work of anti-

racism, social and economic justice, and environmental care. We look forward to learning from one another and growing together on this journey of faith, grace, and love.

Jesus said: "By this everyone will know that you are my disciples, if you have love for one another" (John 13:35).

Guests are welcome. We are pleased you are worshiping with us today. So that we may be in contact with you, we invite you to sign the guest book in the narthex. Our programs are open to all and you are invited to participate. We hope you will worship with us again soon.

Children are welcome. We encourage them to attend worship with their parents—even their noise and restlessness are surely a delight to God. Children's bulletins are available.

To assist you during worship: Large print worship bulletins are available from the ushers. Please inform an usher if you would like the pastor to commune you at your pew.

Offerings: St. John's is a tithing church. We dedicate a percentage of our offerings to the mission of the wider church through the NJ Synod of the ELCA and to many other mission partners. We are able to support these ministries because of your offerings and tithes.

Assisted Listening: To access assisted listening, Connect to the StJohnsALS WiFi network. Download the free WaveCast app to your phone. Tap ST_JOHNS_ALS to connect. Please use your own headphones to listen.



Ministers: The People of Saint John's

Clergy & Staff

The Rev. Blake A. Scalet, Pastor Christopher Harlow-Jennings, Director of Music cha Carolyn Rothman, Church Administrator Jama Bowman, Communications Coordinator j Deacon Linda Walker, Minister of Children's Faith Formation Harold Wyss, Weekday Sexton

pastorbscalet@stjohnssummit.org charlowjennings@stjohnssummit.org crothman@stjohnssummit.org jamabowman@stjohnssummit.org ion wk154linda@gmail.com

We're delighted you're worshiping with us. As part of our ongoing outreach, your voice and your image may be videographed and photographed and used by St. John's for ministry purposes. For any questions or concerns, contact the church office.

Prayer Before Worship

Holy God, Maker of heaven and earth, out of your great love for the world you sent us your beloved Son—but we sent him to his death. Have mercy on us, O Lord; forgive us, renew us, restore us so that we may be the people of your vineyard and bear good fruit for your holy realm; through Jesus Christ our Savior. Amen.

From Feasting on the Word Worship Companion, Year A, Vol. 2

Gathering

The Holy Spirit calls us together as the people of God.

ELW Evangelical Lutheran Worship: Red Book ACS All Creation Sings: Purple Book

PRELUDE Præludium in D, BuxWV 139

Dieterich Buxtehude

WELCOME

Please stand.

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

In the name of the Father, and of the + Son, and of the Holy Spirit. Amen.

Almighty God, to whom all hearts are open, all desires known, 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. **Amen.**

Let us confess our sin in the presence of God and of one another.

The assembly kneels or stands. Silence is kept for reflection.

Most merciful God, 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.

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 word and sacrament in the church of Christ, and by his authority, I therefore declare to you the entire forgiveness of all your sins, in the name of the Father, and of the + Son, and of the Holy Spirit. **Amen.**

GATHERING HYMN ELW 645 Christ Is Made the Sure Foundation



Text: Latin hymn, c. 7th cent.; tr. John Mason Neale, 1818–1866, alt. Music: WESTMINSTER ABBEY, Henry Purcell, 1659–1695; arr. Ernest Hawkins, 1802–1868



APOSTOLIC GREETING

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.**

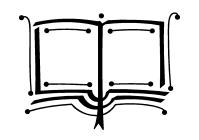
HYMN OF PRAISE





PRAYER OF THE DAY

Let us pray. Beloved God, from you come all things that are good. Lead us by the inspiration of your Spirit to know those things that are right, and by your merciful guidance, help us to do them, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. **Amen.**



Word *God speaks to us in scripture reading, preaching and song.*

Please be seated.

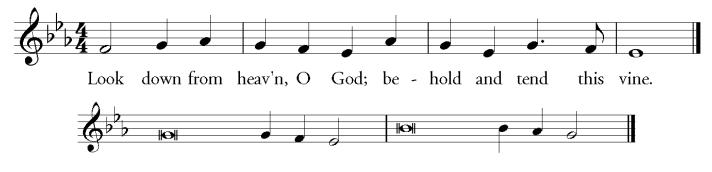
FIRST READING Isaiah 5:1–7

¹Let me sing for my beloved my love-song concerning his vineyard: My beloved had a vineyard on a very fertile hill. ²He dug it and cleared it of stones, and planted it with choice vines; he built a watchtower in the midst of it, and hewed out a wine vat in it; he expected it to yield grapes, but it yielded wild grapes. ³And now, inhabitants of Jerusalem and people of Judah, judge between me and my vineyard. ⁴What more was there to do for my vineyard that I have not done in it? When I expected it to yield grapes, why did it yield wild grapes? ⁵And now I will tell you what I will do to my vineyard. I will remove its hedge, and it shall be devoured; I will break down its wall, and it shall be trampled down. ⁶I will make it a waste; it shall not be pruned or hoed, and it shall be overgrown with briers and thorns; I will also command the clouds that they rain no rain upon it. ⁷For the vineyard of the Lord of hosts is the house of Israel, and the people of Judah are his pleasant planting; he expected justice, but saw bloodshed; righteousness, but heard a cry!

The reader concludes: The word of the Lord. The assembly responds: Thanks be to God.

PSALM 80:7–15

Refrain sung first by choir; all other times by all. Boldface verses sung by all.



⁷Restore us O [God] of hosts; let your face shine upon us, ... and [we shall] be saved.
⁸You have brought a [vine out] of Egypt; you cast out the [nations] and planted it.



⁹You [cleared] the ground for it; it took root and [filled] the land.
¹⁰The mountains were covered [by] its shadow and the towering cedar trees [by] its boughs. Antiphon
¹¹You stretched out its tendrils [to] the sea and its branches [to] the river.
¹²Why have you broken [down] its wall, so that all who pass by [pluck off] its grapes?
¹³The wild boar of the [forest] has ravaged it, and the beasts of the field have [grazed] upon it.
¹⁴Turn now O [God] of hosts, look [down] from heaven;
¹⁵behold and [tend] this vine; preserve what your right [hand] has planted. Antiphon

> Text from *Evangelical Lutheran Worship* ©2006. *Music by Thomas Pavlechko* © 2004, 2012 admin. Augsburg Fortress.

SECOND READING Philippians 3:4b–14

[Paul writes:] ^{4b}If anyone else has reason to be confident in the flesh, I have more: ⁵circumcised on the eighth day, a member of the people of Israel, of the tribe of Benjamin, a Hebrew born of Hebrews; as to the law, a Pharisee; ⁶as to zeal, a persecutor of the church; as to righteousness under the law, blameless.

⁷Yet whatever gains I had, these I have come to regard as loss because of Christ. ⁸More than that, I regard everything as loss because of the surpassing value of knowing Christ Jesus my Lord. For his sake I have suffered the loss of all things, and I regard them as rubbish, in order that I may gain Christ ⁹and be found in him, not having a righteousness of my own that comes from the law, but one that comes through faith in Christ, the righteousness from God based on faith. ¹⁰I want to know Christ and the power of his resurrection and the sharing of his sufferings by becoming like him in his death, ¹¹if somehow I may attain the resurrection from the dead.

¹²Not that I have already obtained this or have already reached the goal; but I press on to make it my own, because Christ Jesus has made me his own. ¹³Beloved, I do not consider that I have made it my own; but this one thing I do: forgetting what lies behind and straining forward to what lies ahead, ¹⁴I press on toward the goal for the prize of the heavenly call of God in Christ Jesus.

The reader concludes: The word of the Lord. The assembly responds: Thanks be to God.

Please stand. GOSPEL ACCLAMATION



All sing the acclamation; Choir sings the proper verse.

V. Jesus says, I chose you and ap- [|] pointed you* to go and bear fruit [|] that will last. (John 15:16)

GOSPEL Matthew 21:23–32

The Holy Gospel according to Matthew. Glory to you, O Lord.

[Jesus said to the people:] ³³"Listen to another parable. There was a landowner who planted a vineyard, put a fence around it, dug a wine press in it, and built a watchtower. Then he leased it to tenants and went to another country. ³⁴When the harvest time had come, he sent his slaves to the tenants to collect his produce. ³⁵But the tenants seized his slaves and beat one, killed another, and stoned another. ³⁶Again he sent other slaves, more than the first; and they treated them in the same way. ³⁷Finally he sent his son to them, saying, 'They will respect my son.' ³⁸But when the tenants saw the son, they said to themselves, 'This is the heir; come, let us kill him and get his inheritance.' ³⁹So they seized him, threw him out of the vineyard, and killed him. ⁴⁰Now when the owner of the vineyard comes, what will he do to those tenants?'' ⁴¹They said to him, "He will put those wretches to a miserable death, and lease the vineyard to other tenants who will give him the produce at the harvest time."

⁴²Jesus said to them, "Have you never read in the scriptures:

'The stone that the builders rejected has become the cornerstone;

this was the Lord's doing, and it is amazing in our eyes'?

⁴³Therefore I tell you, the kingdom of God will be taken away from you and given to a people that produces the fruits of the kingdom. ⁴⁴The one who falls on this stone will be broken to pieces; and it will crush anyone on whom it falls."

⁴⁵When the chief priests and the Pharisees heard his parables, they realized that he was speaking about them. ⁴⁶They wanted to arrest him, but they feared the crowds, because they regarded him as a prophet.

The Gospel of the Lord. Praise to you, O Christ.

Please be seated. CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

SERMON

Please stand.

HYMN OF THE DAY ELW 727 Lord Christ, When First You Came to Earth



APOSTLES CREED

With the whole Church, we confess our faith:

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.

Please stand. PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

PEACE The peace of Christ be with you always. **And also with you.**

Please be seated. PARISH ANNOUNCEMENTS FOR MISSION

GATHERING OF TITHES AND OFFERINGS

We present offerings for God's mission in the world through this congregation. Both visitors and members alike may use the pew envelope to make a contribution. If you would like to make a one-time or recurring electronic contribution, you may visit www.stjohnssummit.org or scan this code.



OFFERING MUSIC Fight the Good Fight

John Gardner

Fight the good fight with all thy might, Christ is thy strength and Christ thy light. Lay hold on life, and it shall be thy joy and crown eternally.

Run the straight race through God's good grace; lift up thine eyes, and seek God's face. Life with its way before us lies; Christ is the path and Christ the prize.

Cast care aside, lean on thy guide; God's boundless mercy will provide. Lean, and the trusting soul shall prove Christ is its life and Christ its love.

Faint not, nor fear, God's arms are near; God changes not, and you are dear. Only believe, and thou shalt see that Christ is all in all to be. Amen.

– John S. B. Monsell (1863)

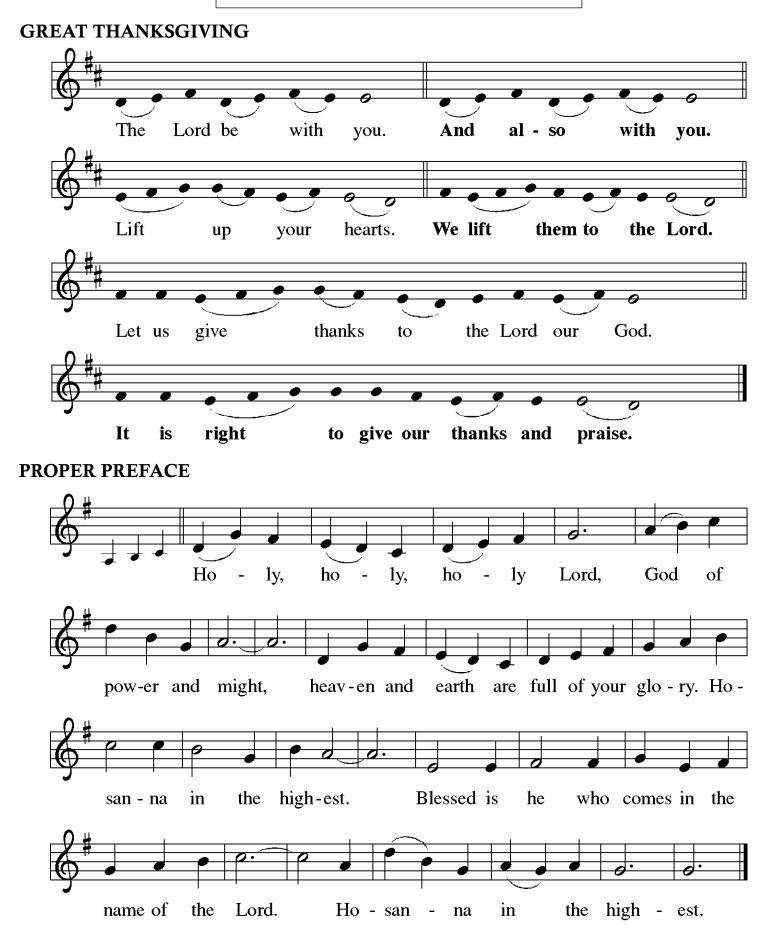
OFFERING HYMN ELW 681 We Plow the Fields and Scatter Verse 3 0 things bright and good, tor. for We thank you, our all 3 cre - a seed-time and the life, our health, our food. the har vest, our No gifts have we of fer for all _ your love im - parts, to Ο what you most would trea - sure—our hum - ble, thank-ful hearts. but from heav'n a - bove. All good gifts round a us are sent -We thank you, Lord, we thank you, Lord, for all love. your

Text: Matthias Claudius, 1740–1815; tr. Jane M. Campbell, 1817–1878, alt. Music: WIR PFLÜGEN, Johann A. P. Schulz, 1747–1800

OFFERTORY PRAYER

Let us pray. Blessed are you, O God, maker of all things. Through your goodness you have blessed us with these gifts: our selves, our time, and our possessions. Use us, and what we have gathered, in feeding the world with your love, through the one who gave himself for us, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.

Meal God feeds us with the presence of Jesus Christ.



EUCHARISTIC PRAYER

LORD'S PRAYER

Gathered into one by the Holy Spirit, let us pray:

Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your name, your kingdom come, your will be done, on earth as in heaven. Give us today our daily bread. Forgive us our sins as we forgive those who sin against us. Save us from the time of trial and deliver us from evil. For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours, now and forever. Amen.

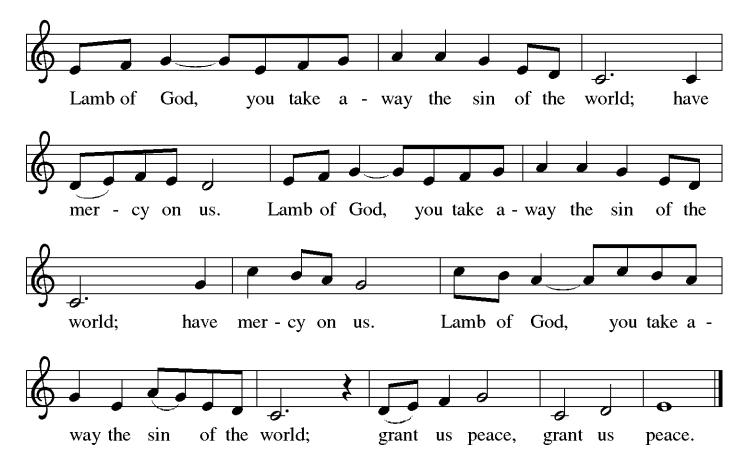
Please be seated.

RECEPTION OF COMMUNON

If you wish to receive communion, please approach the pastor one at a time. The pastor will place a wafer in your open hands. Please indicate if you need a gluten free wafer. Wine is served from the chalice—either by intinction or drinking from the common cup. Wine and grape juice are available in pre-filled individual cups.

> All baptized Christians are welcome at the Lord's table. If you do not wish to commune, you may come forward for a blessing.

LAMB OF GOD



COMMUNION HYMN ELW 525 You Are Holy



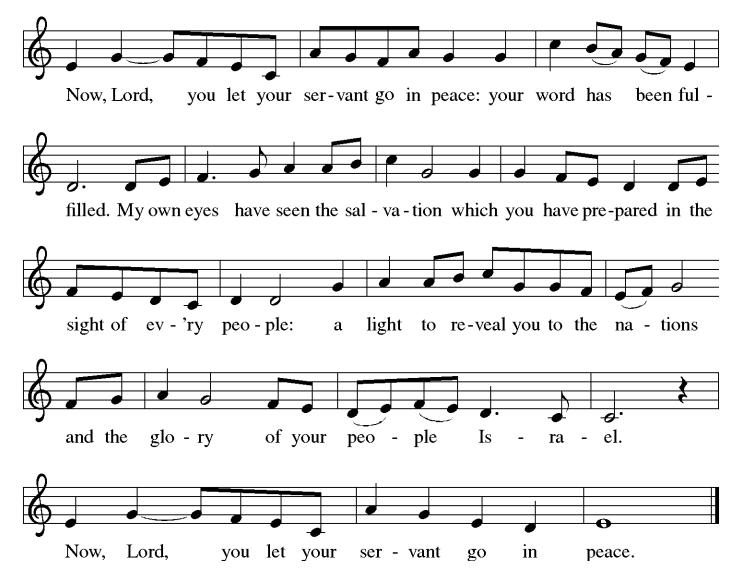
Text: Per Harling, b. 1945 Music: DU ÄR HELIG, Per Harling Text and music © 1990 Ton Vis Produktion AB, admin. Augsburg Fortress in North America, South America, and Central America, including the Caribbean.

Please stand.

BLESSING

The body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen you and keep you in his grace. Amen.

POST COMMUNION CANTICLE



PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

Let us pray. O God, we give you thanks that you have set before us this feast, the body and blood of your Son. By your Spirit strengthen us to serve all in need and to give ourselves away as bread for the hungry, through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

COMMENDATION OF ARTHUR BAUER

Let us commend Art to the mercy of God, our maker and redeemer.

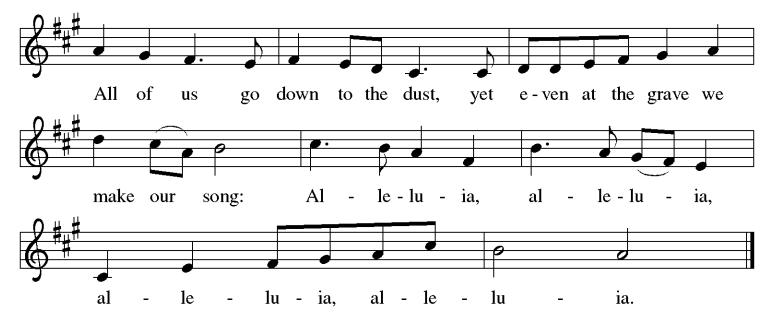
Silence is kept

Into your hands, O merciful Savior, we commend your servant Art. Acknowledge, we humbly beseech you, a sheep of your own fold, a lamb of your own flock, a sinner of your own redeeming. Receive him into the arms of your mercy, into the blessed rest of everlasting peace, and into the glorious company of the saints in light. **Amen.**

CANTICLE ELW 223 All of Us Go Down to the Dust Verses sung by the choir. Refrain sung by all.

Give rest, O Christ, to your servants with your saints, where sorrow and pain are no more, neither sighing, but life everlasting. R

You alone, O God, are immortal, the creator and maker of all that breathes; And we are mortal, formed of the earth, and to earth we shall return. For when we were created, you said, "You are dust, and to dust you shall return." *R*



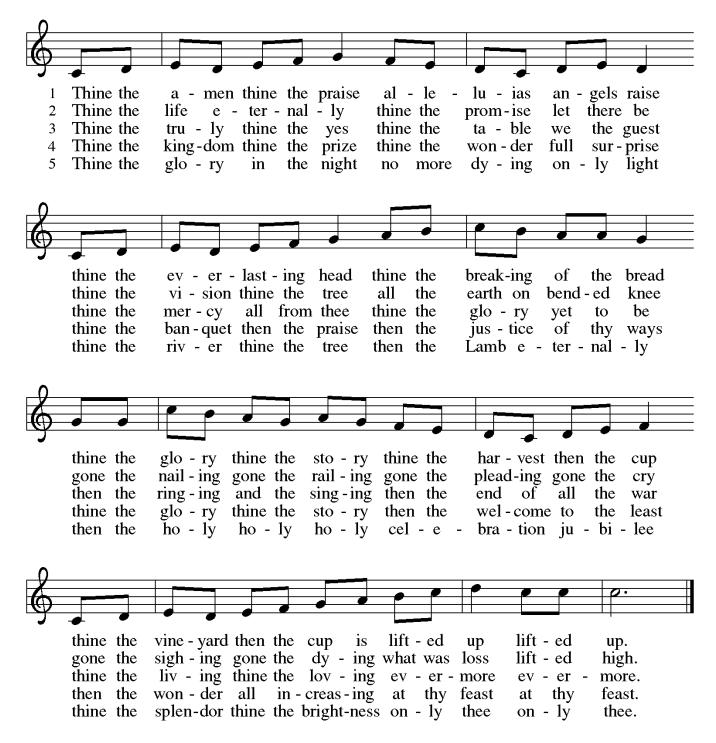
BLESSING

The Lord bless you and keep you. The Lord's face shine on you with grace and mercy. The Lord look upon you with favor and + give you peace. **Amen.**

DISMISSAL

Let us go forth in peace, in the name of Christ. Amen.

SENDING HYMN ELW 826 Thine the Amen



Text: Herbert F. Brokering, b. 1926 Music: THINE, Carl F. Schalk, b. 1929 Text and music © 1983 Augsburg Publishing House, admin. Augsburg Fortress.

POSTLUDE Festival Voluntary

Flor Peeters

October 8, 2023

Today's altar flowers are given to the glory of God and in celebration of their 30th anniversary by Glenn and Paula Wey.

Volunteers Needed: Ushers, Greeters, Readers, Assisting Ministers and Altar Guild. All these jobs are essential to worship at St. John's. Please see the weekly email to sign up.

We need food donations for our fellowship time: Store-bought or homemade–baked goods/ bagels, fruit/veggies, and cheese & crackers are just some ideas. See the weekly email to sign up.

Forum Series TODAY at 9:00 AM through October 15 on Civic Life and Faith.

Children's Choir TODAY at 9:30 AM and Faith Formation at 10:00 AM. All children are welcome. Contact Christopher Harlow-Jennings or Deacon Walker for more information.

Luther Ringers, TODAY 11:45: Handbells is open to middle/high school youth and adults.

Art Bauer Committal & Memorial Service, at the conclusion of the 10:30 service. There will be a memorial service TODAY at 3:00 PM at Cedar Crest Chapel, Pompton Plains.

Fiesta Latina, TODAY, 4:00–7:00 PM on the Summit's Village Green for dance, music, & food.

Charlie Connelly Funeral, Saturday, October 14 at 11:00 AM at St. John's.

Partnership Sunday, St. Stephan's Grace, 7 Wilson Avenue, Newark, **October 15, 3:00 PM**. Leaders from the Brazilian Lutheran Church will be in attendance. Park at 227 Ferry Street, carpooling is encouraged. If interested, contact Jama Bowman.

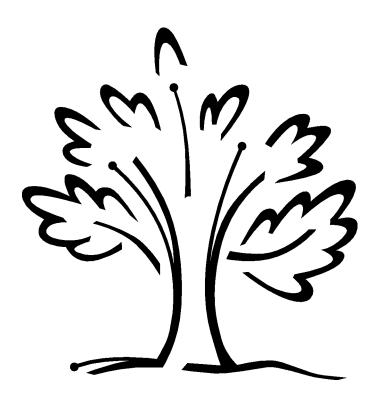
Market Street Mission Coat Drive: Please donate new and gently used coats, scarves and gloves by leaving them in the marked bin in the Church Narthex by October 22.

SJSM Book Discussion, October 22: *Evicted: Poverty and Profit in the American City*, by author Matthew Desmond **on October 22 at 9:00 AM.** Books are available in the church office for \$12.

Dunkin' or Starbucks Gift Cards are needed for college care packages. Please drop off \$10 cards in the church office by **October 22.** If you have a college student, please contact Jama Bowman with their address.

Reformation Sunday, October 29: Along with our morning observances, we will have a special **Choral Vespers at 4:00 PM**. Join us for contemplative reflection and moving singing by the St. John's Choir on this festival day. **Wear red!**

Check out our new Church Library which is open for your use any time the church is open, Sundays, & Tuesday through Friday. To check out a book, fill out the date and your name on the card located on the inside back cover (plus phone if not a member), place card in the box next to the card catalog. Books may be borrowed for up to one month and returned to the labeled basket.



SAINT JOHN'S LUTHERAN CHURCH 587 Springfield Avenue, Summit, NJ 07901 stjohnssummit.org | 908-273-3846



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