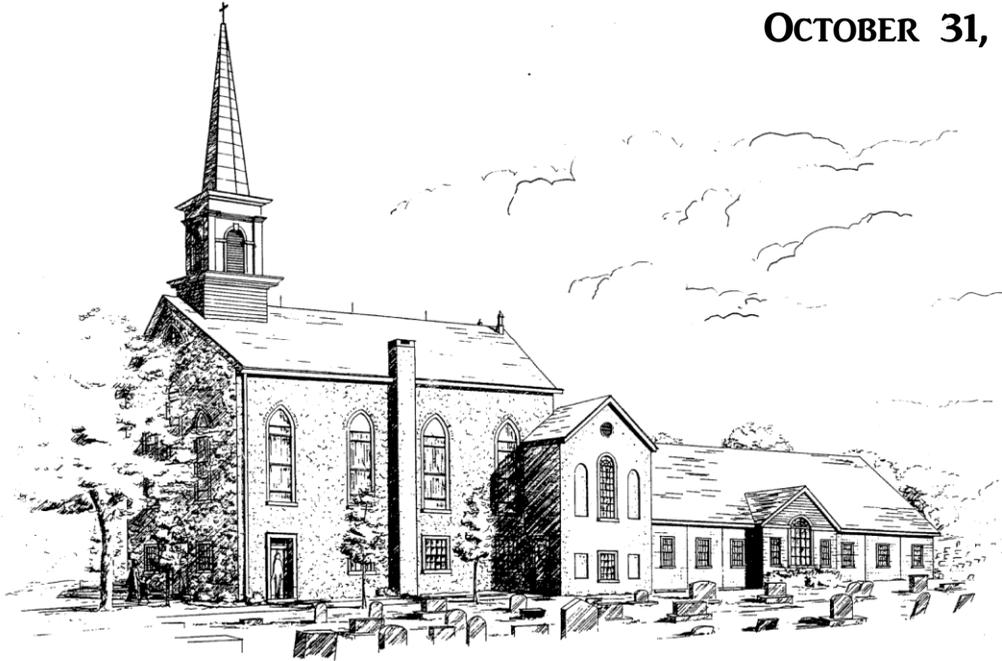


OCTOBER 31, 2021



**Saint John's
Lutheran
Church**
Spinnerstown



1565 Sleepy Hollow Road | P.O. Box 120

Spinnerstown, PA 18968

215) 536-0734

General email: stjohnsspinnerstown@gmail.com

Please visit our web site—

www.stjohnsofspinnerstown.org

Welcome to worship with St. John's of Spinnerstown!

Thank you for joining us today either in Church or online!

Our service this morning will be filled with scripture, proclamation, praise, and prayer. Everything you need is available in your bulletin.

If you have any prayer concerns to add to the list please contact the Church Office.

The Staff of St. John's

The People of St. John's

Rev. Axel T. Kaegler

(kaegax01@gmail.com or phone – 201.739.7702)

Carol Dzurenda

Darcy McConahy

Becky Hinderliter

Joseph Brooke & Laurie Stoneback

Jen Bara

Ministers

Pastor

Organist

Choir Director

Christian Education Director

Sextons

Secretary

Office Hours: Monday, Wednesday and Thursday 9:00 a.m. – 1:00 p.m.

Office Phone: 215.536.0734 Office Email: stjohnsspinnerstown@gmail.com

Keep up with St. John's news

Now you don't have to wait a month between editions of the Spire to see what's new at St. John's. For those who use social media, we can be found on Facebook (St. John's Lutheran Church, Spinnerstown, PA), Instagram ([stjohnsspinnerstown](https://www.instagram.com/stjohnsspinnerstown)) and Twitter ([stjohnsspinnerstown](https://twitter.com/stjohnsspinnerstown)). Anyone online can visit our website, www.stjohnsofspinnerstown.org. Feel free to share with your "friends" and "followers" any items you find on these sites.

We now have our own YouTube Channel as well!

<https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCHmqkdhB-ukT7eFsDokBbw/featured>

ST. JOHN'S LUTHERAN CHURCH
SPINNERSTOWN, PA
REFORMATION
OCTOBER 31, 2021

Announcements

Handbell Prelude: *"A Mighty Fortress Is Our God"*

M. Luther

+ Order for Confession and Forgiveness

P: Blessed be the holy Trinity, † one God,
whose teaching is life,
whose presence is sure,
and whose love is endless.

C: Amen.

P: Let us confess our sins to the one who welcomes us with an open heart.

Silence is kept for reflection.

P: God our comforter:

C: like lost sheep, we have gone astray.

We gaze upon abundance and see scarcity.

We turn our faces away from injustice and oppression.

We exploit the earth with our apathy and greed.

Free us from our sin, gracious God.

Listen when we call out to you for help.

Lead us by your love to love our neighbors as ourselves.

Amen.

P: All have sinned and fall short of the glory of God.

By the gift of grace in † Christ Jesus, God makes you righteous.

Receive with glad hearts the forgiveness of all your sins.

C: Amen.

+ Opening Hymn: *"A Mighty Fortress Is Our God"*

Verses 1 & 2

#504

A Mighty Fortress Is Our God



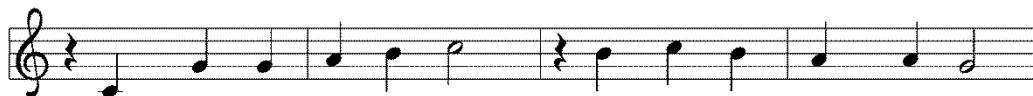
1 A might - y for - tress is our God, a sword and shield vic -
2 No strength of ours can match his might! We would be lost, re -
3 Though hordes of dev - ils fill the land all threat - 'ning to de -
4 God's Word for - ev - er shall a - bide, no thanks to foes, who



to - rious; he breaks the cruel op - pres - sor's rod and
ject - ed. But now a cham - pion comes to fight, whom
vour us, we trem - ble not, un - moved we stand; they
fear it; for God him - self fights by our side with



wins sal - va - tion glo - rious. The old sa - tan - ic foe
God him - self e - lect - ed. You ask who this may be?
can - not o - ver - pow'r us. Let this world's ty - rant rage;
weap - ons of the Spir - it. Were they to take our house,



has sworn to work us woe! With craft and dread - ful might
The Lord of hosts is he! Christ Je - sus, might - y Lord,
in bat - tle we'll en - gage! His might is doomed to fail;
goods, hon - or, child, or spouse, though life be wrenched a - way,



he arms him - self to fight. On earth he has no e - qual.
God's on - ly Son, a - dored. He holds the field vic - to - rious.
God's judg - ment must pre - vail! One lit - tle word sub - dues him.
they can - not win the day. The king - dom's ours for - ev - er!

Text: Martin Luther, 1483–1546; tr. *Lutheran Book of Worship*

Music: EIN FESTE BURG, Martin Luther

Text © 1978 *Lutheran Book of Worship*, admin. Augsburg Fortress

Reprinted under OneLicense.net A-725139

+ The Greeting

P: 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

Gracious Father, we pray for your holy catholic church. Fill it with all truth and peace. Where it is corrupt, purify it; where it is in error, direct it; where in anything it is amiss, reform it; where it is right, strengthen it; where it is in need, provide for it; where it is divided, reunite it; for the sake of your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

Amen.

First Reading: A reading from Jeremiah 31:31-34.

The renewed covenant will not be breakable, but like the old covenant it will expect the people to live upright lives. To know the LORD means that one will defend the cause of the poor and needy (Jer. 22:16). The renewed covenant is possible only because the LORD will forgive iniquity and not remember sin. Our hope lies in a God who forgets.

³¹The days are surely coming, says the LORD, when I will make a new covenant with the house of Israel and the house of Judah. ³²It will not be like the covenant that I made with their ancestors when I took them by the hand to bring them out of the land of Egypt—a covenant that they broke, though I was their husband, says the LORD. ³³But this is the covenant that I will make with the house of Israel after those days, says the LORD: I will put my law within them, and I will write it on their hearts; and I will be their God, and they shall be my people. ³⁴No longer shall they teach one another, or say to each other, “Know the LORD,” for they shall all know me, from the least of them to the greatest, says the LORD; for I will forgive their iniquity, and remember their sin no more.

L: Word of God, word of life.

C: Thanks be to God.

Psalm 46

¹God is our refuge and strength,
a very present help in trouble.

²**Therefore we will not fear, though the earth be moved,
and though the mountains shake in the depths of the sea;**

³though its waters rage and foam,
and though the mountains tremble with its tumult.

⁴**There is a river whose streams make glad the city of God,
the holy habitation of the Most High.**

⁵God is in the midst of the city; it shall not be shaken;
God shall help it at the break of day.

⁶**The nations rage, and the kingdoms shake;
God speaks, and the earth melts away.**

⁷The LORD of hosts is with us;
the God of Jacob is our stronghold.

⁸**Come now, regard the works of the LORD,
what desolations God has brought upon the earth;**

⁹behold the one who makes war to cease in all the world;
who breaks the bow, and shatters the spear,
and burns the shields with fire.

¹⁰**“Be still, then, and know that I am God;
I will be exalted among the nations; I will be exalted in the earth.”**

¹¹The LORD of hosts is with us;
the God of Jacob is our stronghold.

Second Reading: A reading from Romans 3:19-28.

Paul’s words stand at the heart of the preaching of Martin Luther and other Reformation leaders. No human beings make themselves right with God through works of the law. We are brought into a right relationship with God through the divine activity centered in Christ’s death. This act is a gift of grace that liberates us from sin and empowers our faith in Jesus Christ.

¹⁹Now we know that whatever the law says, it speaks to those who are under the law, so that every mouth may be silenced, and the whole world may be held accountable to God. ²⁰For “no human being will be justified in his

sight” by deeds prescribed by the law, for through the law comes the knowledge of sin.

²¹But now, apart from law, the righteousness of God has been disclosed, and is attested by the law and the prophets, ²²the righteousness of God through faith in Jesus Christ for all who believe. For there is no distinction, ²³since all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God; ²⁴they are now justified by his grace as a gift, through the redemption that is in Christ Jesus, ²⁵whom God put forward as a sacrifice of atonement by his blood, effective through faith. He did this to show his righteousness, because in his divine forbearance he had passed over the sins previously committed; ²⁶it was to prove at the present time that he himself is righteous and that he justifies the one who has faith in Jesus.

²⁷Then what becomes of boasting? It is excluded. By what law? By that of works? No, but by the law of faith. ²⁸For we hold that a person is justified by faith apart from works prescribed by the law.

L: Word of God, word of life.

C: Thanks be to God.

+ Holy Gospel: The holy gospel according to John 8:31-36.

C: Glory to you, O Lord!

Jesus speaks of truth and freedom as spiritual realities known through his word. He reveals the truth that sets people free from sin.

³¹Jesus said to the Jews who had believed in him, “If you continue in my word, you are truly my disciples; ³²and you will know the truth, and the truth will make you free.” ³³They answered him, “We are descendants of Abraham and have never been slaves to anyone. What do you mean by saying, ‘You will be made free’?”

³⁴Jesus answered them, “Very truly, I tell you, everyone who commits sin is a slave to sin. ³⁵The slave does not have a permanent place in the household; the son has a place there forever. ³⁶So if the Son makes you free, you will be free indeed.”

P: The Gospel of the Lord.

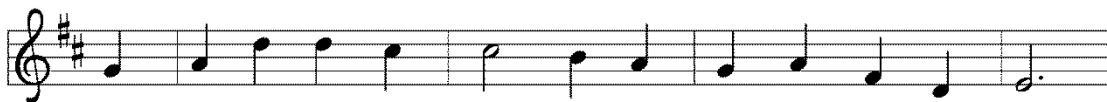
C: Praise to you, O Christ!

Sermon

Hymn of the Day: “*The Church’s One Foundation*” Verses 1 & 2 #654



1 The church's one foun - da - tion is Je - sus Christ, her Lord;
2 E - lect from ev - 'ry na - tion, yet one o'er all the earth,
3 Though with a scorn - ful won - der this world sees her op - pressed,
4 Through toil and trib - u - la - tion and tu - mult of her war,
5 Yet she on earth has u - nion with God, the Three in One,



she is his new cre - a - tion by wa - ter and the word.
her char - ter of sal - va - tion one Lord, one faith, one birth:
by schisms . . rent a - sund - er, by her - e - sies dis - tressed,
she waits the con - sum - ma - tion of peace for - ev - er - more;
and mys - tic sweet com - mu - nion with those whose rest is won.



From heav'n he came and sought her to be his ho - ly bride;
one ho - ly name she bless - es, par - takes one ho - ly food,
yet saints their watch are keep - ing; their cry goes up: “How long?”
till with the vi - sion glo - rious her long - ing eyes are blest,
Oh, bless - ed heav'n - ly cho - rus! Lord, save us by your grace,



with his own blood he bought her, and for her life he died.
and to one hope she press - es with ev - 'ry grace en - dued.
and soon the night of weep - ing shall be the morn of song.
and the great church vic - to - rious shall be the church at rest.
that we, like saints be - fore us, may see you face to face.

Text: Samuel J. Stone, 1839–1900

Music: AURELIA, Samuel S. Wesley, 1810–1876

+ Nicene Creed

**We believe in one God, the Father, the Almighty,
maker of heaven and earth, of all that is, seen and unseen.**

**We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ, the only Son of God,
eternally begotten of the Father, God from God, Light from Light,
true God from true God, begotten, not made, of one Being with the
Father; through him all things were made.**

**For us and for our salvation he came down from heaven, was incarnate of
the Holy Spirit and the virgin Mary and became truly human. For
our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate; he suffered death and
was buried. On the third day he rose again in accordance with the
scriptures; he ascended into heaven and is seated at the right hand of
the Father. He will come again in glory to judge the living and the
dead, and his kingdom will have no end.**

**We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life, who proceeds
from the Father and the Son, who with the Father and the Son is
worshiped and glorified, who has spoken through the prophets.**

We believe in one holy catholic and apostolic church.

We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins.

**We look for the resurrection of the dead, and the life of the world to come.
Amen.**

+ Prayers of Intercession

Set free from sin and death and nourished by the word of truth, we join in
prayer for all of God's creation.

A brief silence.

We pray for all who long for a word of truth and for the radical grace that
flows from the cross. Inspire congregations to freely and boldly proclaim your
love for all people with persistence and hope. Hear us, O God.

Your mercy is great.

We pray for your creation, for mountains, rivers, streams, cities, homesteads,
and neighborhoods. Write in our hearts a new love and care for creation. Give
us the will to curb wasteful habits and to hold accountable those who neglect

the vulnerable. Hear us, O God.

Your mercy is great.

We pray for all who aspire to public office and for all who will vote on Tuesday at local polling places. Pour wisdom and understanding upon all who govern so that communities of justice and peace may thrive. Hear us, O God.

Your mercy is great.

We pray for all who long for healing in mind, body, or spirit (*especially*). Strengthen hospitals, clinics, counseling centers, nursing homes, and recovery centers to be holy spaces of renewal that all might live the abundant life you intend. Hear us, O God.

Your mercy is great.

We pray for all who seek to grow in faith and love of you. Guide teaching and learning in confirmation, small groups, Sunday school, youth groups, schools, seminaries, and universities. Hear us, O God.

Your mercy is great.

*O God our Healer, show your compassion for the whole human family that is in turmoil and burdened with illness and with fear. Come to our aid as the coronavirus spreads globally, heal those who are sick, support and protect their families and friends from being infected. Hear our cry, O God,

listen to our prayer.

*Grant us your spirit of love and self-discipline so that we may come together, working to control and eliminate the coronavirus. Heal our self-centeredness and indifference that makes us worry only when the virus threatens us, open ways beyond timidity and fear that too easily ignore our neighbor. Hear our cry, O God,

listen to our prayer.

*Strengthen and encourage those in public health services and in the medical profession: care-givers, nurses, attendants, doctors, all who commit themselves to caring for the sick and their families. Sustain all workers and business owners who suffer loss of livelihood due to shut-downs, quarantines, closed borders, and other restrictions... protect and guard all those who must travel. Guide the leaders of the nations that they speak the truth, halt the spread of

misinformation and act with justice so that all your family may know healing.
Hear our cry, O God,
listen to our prayer.

*Heal our world, heal our bodies, strengthen our hearts and our minds, and in the midst of turmoil, give us hope and peace. Hold in your gentle embrace all who have died and who will die this day. Comfort their loved ones in their despair. Hear our cry, O God,
listen to our prayer.

Here other intercessions may be offered.

We give thanks for all the saints and reformers who have gone before us who dwell in your holy habitation. Give us courage through their example to challenge unjust systems and work toward life-giving reformation. Hear us, O God.

Your mercy is great.

We give you thanks for the Church's Bishops - Bishop Eaton and Bishop Davenport, for the Church's pastors and deacons, and all called by you and your people to lead and guide our congregations. Keep them strong and faithful in the power and grace of your abiding word. Hear us, O God.

Your mercy is great.

Confident that you hear us, O God, we boldly place our prayers into your hands; through Jesus Christ, our truth and life.

Amen.

**Pandemic prayers provided by the Lutheran World Federation.*

+ Sharing of the Peace

Offering

Special Music: “*Jesus, Lover of My Soul*”

C. Wesley/S. B. Marsh

Noel Brooke, Ken Butz & Darcy McConahy, trio

+ The Great Thanksgiving

P: The Lord be with you.

C: And also with you.

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 our thanks and praise.**

+ Holy, holy, holy



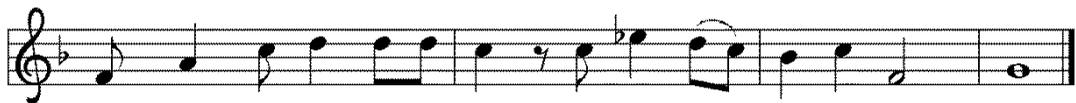
Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow'r and might,



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.

+ Words of Institution

In the night in which he was betrayed,
our Lord Jesus took bread, and gave thanks;
broke it, and gave it to his disciples, saying:
Take and eat; this is my body, given for you.
Do this for the remembrance of me.

Again, after supper, he took the cup, gave thanks,
and gave it for all to drink, saying:
This cup is the new covenant in my blood,
shed for you and for all people for the forgiveness of sin.
Do this for the remembrance of me.

+ 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.

Lamb of God



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.

Distribution of Holy Communion

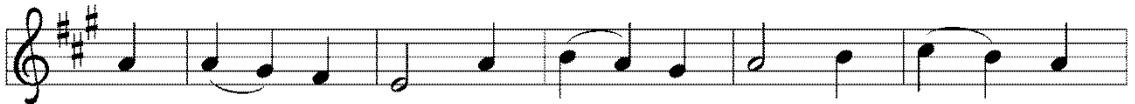
Post-communion Blessing
Post-communion Prayer

+ Benediction

+ Closing Hymn: “*The Church of Christ, in Every Age*”

#729

Verses 1, 2, & 3



1 The church of Christ, in ev - 'ry age be - set by
2 A - cross the world, a - cross the street, the vic - tims
3 Then let the ser - vant church a - rise, a car - ing
4 For he a - lone, whose blood was shed, can cure the
5 We have no mis - sion but to serve in full o -



change, but Spir - it - led, must claim and test its
of in - jus - tice cry for shel - ter and for
church that longs to be a part - ner in Christ's
fe - ver in our blood, and teach us how to
be - dience to our Lord; to care for all, with -



her - i - tage and keep on ris - ing from the dead.
bread to eat, and nev - er live be - fore they die.
sac - ri - fice, and clothed in Christ's hu - man - i - ty.
share our bread and feed the starv - ing mul - ti - tude.
out re - serve, and spread his lib - er - at - ing word.

Text: Fred Pratt Green, 1903–2000

Music: WAREHAM, William Knapp, 1698–1768

Text © 1971 Hope Publishing Company, Carol Stream, IL 60188. All rights reserved. Used by permission.

Reprinted under OneLicense.net A-725139

+ Dismissal

Postlude: “*A Mighty Fortress*”

J. Walther

Sponsors for October 31, 2021

The bulletins are sponsored by St. John's Lutheran Church

*The altar flowers are sponsored by Steve & Maureen Potsko
in memory of my father, Ronald Wimmer.*

Worship Assistants for October 31, 2021

Usher Captain – Stephen Spry

Greeters	Ken & Carol Butz
Ushers	Gary & Diane Small
Lector	Bill Slotter
Communion Assistants	Brad & Becky Hinderliter
Acolyte	Lillian Hinderliter
Altar Guild	Janet Bassett & Karen Landes

Worship Assistants for November 7, 2021

Usher Captain – Winnie Peterson

Greeters	George & Peggy Hudock
Ushers	Joe & Noel Brooke
Lector	Stephen Spry
Communion Assistants	Peggy Hudock & Stephen Spry
Acolyte	Brady Massinger
Altar Guild	Maureen Potsko & Betty Sinisko

Autumn 2021 Sponsorships are available!

Bulletin Sponsors – The cost is \$20 to help cover the expense of mailing the bulletin to our members who do not have email and cannot come to worship.

Spire Sponsors –\$30/month for one person/family, or you can split the sponsorship with another for \$15 each.

Altar Flower Sponsorships are \$17.50 for one bouquet or \$35 for both.

Sign up on the board by the kitchen or contact the office at
stjohnsspinnerstown@gmail.com or 215-536-0734.

We Remember in Our Prayers

Steve Potsko, Alida Spry, Don Spry (Stephen Spry's father), Brian Barndt (son of Ruth Ann & Guy Barndt), Family & Friends of John Berninger (Alida Spry's stepfather), Ele Hanshew, Kathleen Lausch (Ron Lausch's mother), Betty Konjusky (Peggy Hudock's mother), Thomas Wickham (relative of Mildred Westgate), Rev. Dr. Richard Stewart, Viola Giebel (Peggy Hudock's daughter-in-law's mother), Debbie & Larry Lasher (Darcy McConahy's sister & brother-in-law), Renee Georgiadis, Michael Bowers, Dorothy Brinkman, and Joe Otto (Marsha Hartley's brother)



Prayers, Please

Our Prayer List – Each week there appears in this bulletin, a list of people for whom congregation members are asked to pray. The names are read during the “Prayers of Intercession.” The names are listed for four weeks and then removed, but they can be re-added every four weeks for as long as necessary. To add a name to the prayer list - or to renew a listing - please contact Church Secretary Jen Bara at 215-536-0734, Monday, Wednesday or Thursday, 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. or send her an e-mail at stjohnsspinnerstown@gmail.com. To assure a name will be included in the next bulletin, please contact her by 10 a.m. Thursday.

St. John's Prayer Circle is ready and waiting for your requests. If you know someone in need of prayer – or if you would like to join the circle and expand our collective voice – please call Joan Seiger at [215-257-7478](tel:215-257-7478) or Loretta Thorsen at [215-679-2356](tel:215-679-2356).

E-mailing Prayer Concerns: For any confidential prayer concerns to give to the Pastor - reach out to: spinnerstownprayerline@gmail.com

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Welcome in the Name of Jesus!

**We pray that you will be blessed by your time here today,
and that God will fill you with grace and love every day.**



Today is ***Reformation!*** Get in the Reformation spirit and wear **red** to church!

Congregational Meeting – November 7 at **10:30 a.m.** after worship. *Please note the time change!*

Agenda:

- Budget
- Flood Damage



Vanco Online Giving – St. John's can now receive your offering via online & mobile giving through Vanco! In addition to your offering, you can contribute to other funds such as the Stained Glass Window Fund and Cemetery Fund. You will also be able to sponsor altar flowers, bulletins, the monthly Spire, as well as the seasonal flowers such as Easter Lilies and Poinsettias!

Members who plan to use the Vanco online or mobile giving tool **SHOULD** create an account in order to accurately receive credit for your offering and/or sponsorships, etc. and to make it easier for our financial secretary to keep track!

To use online, simply go to our website and look for the “Vanco Online Giving” button on our homepage. Follow the instructions to create an account.

You can also download the Vanco app at the [Apple App Store](#) or [Google Play Store](#). When prompted, use this code to create an account for St.

John's: CSTDSA

Please don't hesitate to contact the office if you have any questions!

Coffee Hour is back! Servers and bakers needed for coffee hour! If you can volunteer to bake and/or serve, please sign up on the bulletin board by the kitchen or contact the office! Thank you in advance!



Visitation with Holy Communion – Those in the Congregation who aren't coming to worship in person, but who hunger for the Sacrament of Holy Communion are invited to call the Church office, or email Pastor Kaegler to schedule a visit with Holy Communion.



Poinsettias to decorate our sanctuary for Christmas are now on sale! They are \$7.00 each. To order, please sign up on the sheet by the kitchen or by the front entrance to the church, or contact the church office. Remember to designate your poinsettias in honor or in memory of your loved ones if you would like to do so. Payment can be in the form of cash or check, mailed to St. John's Lutheran Church at P.O. Box 120 Spinnerstown, PA 18968, or brought in on Sunday morning and put in the offering plate. Checks can be made out to St. John's Lutheran Church. Remember to label your payment with your name, envelope number, amount, and number of poinsettias. If you prefer, you can use Vanco to make your payment as well! Look for the tile labeled "Poinsettias". Last day to order is November 28.

Dates to Remember

11/3/21	10:00 a.m. Willing Workers 6:30 p.m. Confirmation 6:30 p.m. Bells 7:30 p.m. Adult Choir
11/4/21	7:30 p.m. Worship & Music
11/7/21	All Saints Sunday 9:00 a.m. Sunday School 9:30 a.m. Communion 10:30 a.m. Congregational Meeting