

St. John's Lutheran Church – June 29, 2025

Welcome to St. John's

Thanks for being here today! We feel blessed that you're here and truly pray you find the warmth of our Christian family, the powerful truth of God's Word and the peaceful assurance of His promises. If we can assist you in any way, please ask. To start, everything for our worship is projected on the screens up front and printed here in the service folder. God bless your time with us today. We hope you can worship with us again!

If You're New to St. John's:

You and your kids are welcome. We really love and enjoy having kids in worship and encourage the worshiping family! In fact, our worship often includes a children's message with little ones in mind. And if your children are acting up, please know it's never a bother to our worship service. However, If you do need a quiet place to calm a child, a nursery room is available with screens immediately to the left as you exit the sanctuary. There are also changing stations in each bathroom.

Restrooms are located in the entrance as you came into the building

Make yourself at home. You don't have to rush off after service today. Light refreshments are usually provided in our social hall after worship. If you feel comfortable, please stay and follow up with one of our pastors; we'd be honored if you took a moment to introduce yourself!

Don't feel obligated. Our members give financial offerings to the Lord as an expression of thanks and praise for his amazing love. Please know that you are our guests and we're simply happy you've come to hear about Jesus and His Word today. You're not expected to give an offering; it's your choice.

Cell Phones. To remove as many distractions as possible from worshiping God today, we kindly ask you to silence your phone before the service.

Fill out a Connection Card. We'd love to know you were here and help you take the next step. There are Connection Cards inserted in the worship folders, or they can be completed online. Text "Connect" to 651-401-1400, scan the QR code, or visit <u>www.StJohnsLutheran.com/connection-card</u> to complete the card online.



Welcome to St. John's

Opening Praise: My Soul Finds Rest in God Alone CW 818 sts. 1, Ref, 2



We Worship with God's Blessing

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

Our Honest Confession; God's Gracious Forgiveness

If we claim to be without sin, we deceive ourselves and the truth is not in us. If we confess our sins, God is faithful and just and will forgive us our sins and purify us from all unrighteousness.

Let us confess our sins to the Lord. Holy God, gracious Father, I am sinful by nature and have sinned against you in my thoughts, words, and actions. I have not loved you with my whole heart; I have not loved others as I should. I deserve your punishment both now and forever. But Jesus, my Savior, paid for my sins with his innocent suffering and death. Trusting in him, I pray: God, have mercy on me, a sinner.

Silence for meditation and reflection

Our gracious Father in heaven has been merciful to us. He sent his only Son, Jesus Christ, who gave his life as the atoning sacrifice for the sins of the whole world. Therefore, as a called servant of Christ and by his authority, I forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the + Son and of the Holy Spirit. **Amen.**



CW 818 sts. Ref, 3

Prayer of the Day

O God, you have prepared joys beyond understanding for those who love you. Pour into our hearts such love for you that, loving you above all things, we may obtain your promises, which exceed all that we can desire; through your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. **Amen.**

Children's Message

God's Word for our Hearts

2 Corinthians 11:21b-30

Whatever anyone else dares to boast about—I am speaking as a fool—I also dare to boast about. ²²Are they Hebrews? So am I. Are they Israelites? So am I. Are they Abraham's descendants? So am I. ²³Are they servants of Christ? (I am out of my mind to talk like this.) I am more. I have worked much harder, been in prison more frequently, been flogged more severely, and been exposed to death again and again. ²⁴Five times I received from the Jews the forty lashes minus one. ²⁵Three times I was beaten with rods, once I was pelted with stones, three times I was shipwrecked, I spent a night and a day in the open sea, ²⁶I have been constantly on the move. I have been in danger from rivers, in danger from bandits, in danger from my fellow Jews, in danger from Gentiles; in danger in the city, in danger in the country, in danger at sea; and in danger from false believers. ²⁷I have labored and toiled and have often gone without sleep; I have known hunger and thirst and have often gone without food; I have been cold and naked. ²⁸Besides everything else, I face daily the pressure of my concern for all the churches. ²⁹Who is weak, and I do not feel weak? Who is led into sin, and I do not inwardly burn?

³⁰If I must boast, I will boast of the things that show my weakness.

The Word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

Psalm 62 – select verses

Truly my soul finds rest in God; **my salvation comes from him.** Truly he is my rock and my salvation; **he is my fortress, I will never be shaken.** Yes, my soul, find rest in God; **my hope comes from him.** though your riches increase, **do not set your heart on them.** My salvation and my honor depend on God; **he is my mighty rock, my refuge.** Trust in him at all times, you people; **pour out your hearts to him, for God is our refuge.**

Glory be to the Father and to the Son And to the Holy Spirit, as it was in the beginning, is now, and will be forever. Amen.



The Gospel Reading

⁵¹As the time approached for him to be taken up to heaven, Jesus resolutely set out for Jerusalem. ⁵²And he sent messengers on ahead, who went into a Samaritan village to get things ready for him; ⁵³but the people there did not welcome him, because he was heading for Jerusalem. ⁵⁴When the disciples James and John saw this, they asked, "Lord, do you want us to call fire down from heaven to destroy them?" ⁵⁵But Jesus turned and rebuked them. ⁵⁶Then he and his disciples went to another village.

⁵⁷As they were walking along the road, a man said to him, "I will follow you wherever you go."

⁵⁸Jesus replied, "Foxes have dens and birds have nests, but the Son of Man has no place to lay his head."

⁵⁹He said to another man, "Follow me."

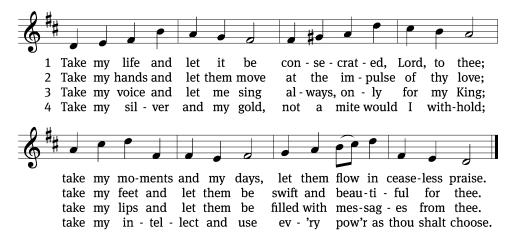
But he replied, "Lord, first let me go and bury my father."

⁶⁰Jesus said to him, "Let the dead bury their own dead, but you go and proclaim the kingdom of God."

⁶¹Still another said, "I will follow you, Lord; but first let me go back and say goodbye to my family."

⁶²Jesus replied, "No one who puts a hand to the plow and looks back is fit for service in the kingdom of God."

The Gospel of the Lord. **Praise be to you, O Christ!** 695 Take My Life and Let It Be



- 5 Take my will and make it thine, it shall be no longer mine; take my heart, it is thine own, it shall be thy royal throne.
- 6 Take my love, my Lord, I pour at thy feet its treasure store; take myself, and I will be ever, only, all for thee.

Today's Message from our Loving God -- 1 Kings 19:19-21

¹⁹So Elijah went from there and found Elisha son of Shaphat. He was plowing with twelve yoke of oxen, and he himself was driving the twelfth pair. Elijah went up to him and threw his cloak around him. ²⁰Elisha then left his oxen and ran after Elijah. "Let me kiss my father and mother goodbye," he said, "and then I will come with you."

"Go back," Elijah replied. "What have I done to you?"

²¹So Elisha left him and went back. He took his yoke of oxen and slaughtered them. He burned the plowing equipment to cook the meat and gave it to the people, and they ate. Then he set out to follow Elijah and became his servant.

Message Notes: Things for me to remember this week...

We Confess Our Faith: Apostles' Creed

I believe in God, the Father almighty, maker of heaven and earth.

I believe in Jesus Christ, his 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 into hell. The third day he rose again from the dead. He ascended into heaven and is seated at the right hand of God the Father almighty. From there he will come to judge the living and the dead.

I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy Christian Church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen.

Be seated

Our Offering of Thanks & Love

"Whatever you do, whether in word or deed, do it all in the name of the Lord Jesus, giving thanks to God the Father through him" - Colossians 3:17

Our offerings are both an expression of thankfulness for what our Savior has done for us, and a way of supporting the spread of the gospel through the Church's work. Guests need not feel obligated to contribute.

Ways to Give Electronically

Choose one of 3 Simple, Safe Options for Offering Thanks



- Text "give" to 651-401-1400
- Go to www.StJohnsLutheran.com/give
- Scan the QR code

Stand

Prayer and The Lord's Prayer

Eternal Lord, give us peace as we ponder the good news that you forgive our sins in Christ. Lead us to see clearly the path you have laid out before us. Work in us so that we believe and live the Word we have heard today.

Guard and guide the families of our congregation. Lead husbands and wives to love each other with commitment, respect, and patience. Help parents to grasp the eternal value of keeping their children close to Jesus all their lives. Grant joy to those who are single, and make them a blessing to others.

Protect us from the temptations that surround us; give us pure hearts and minds.

Provide wisdom and insight to those who make laws and set policies. Give us respect for those who protect us from crime. Lead us to value the rights of our fellow citizens and to defend those who cannot defend themselves.

Bless our land with peace and prosperity so that the gospel may be proclaimed to all.

Extend your healing power to those who are sick and suffering in body or mind. Give patience and compassion to all who care for the sick and dying. Lift the eyes of the distressed to your love in Christ.

Gracious God, you govern and direct all things and you love all people. Hear our prayers and answer them in your wisdom and grace. **In Jesus' name we pray. Amen.**

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. Lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours now and forever. Amen.

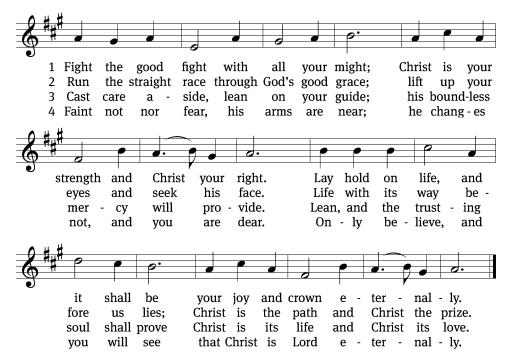
Blessing

The Lord bless you and keep you. The Lord make his face shine on you and be gracious to you. The Lord look on you with favor and + give you peace. **Amen.**

Be seated

Fight the Good Fight

CW 876



CCLI license #2963929 and CCS license #8000

We are glad to have you worshipping with us!

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Quarterly Meeting – July 13 @ 11:15am

The next Quarterly Meeting will be held on July 13 at 11:15am. Everyone is welcome and encouraged to attend!

Jonathan Harbach

Jonathan, who will be attending Wisconsin Lutheran Seminary in the fall, will assist with worship on Monday night. He graduated from MLC in May.

2025 Soccer Camp – Follow-up Packets Available

Thank you all! We give thanks to God for providing us with a week filled with wonderful children & their families and for all our hardworking volunteers and coaches! It was a fun filled week of sharing Jesus with 130 campers and their families! Follow-up packets are now available this week for distribution. Please let us know if you'd like to help deliver them to the soccer camp families!

Please note:

Michelle will be out of the office on vacation July 3-8th with limited access to email. She will return your messages as soon as possible.

This week at St. John's:

| Today: | 8:45 AM | Bible Class |
|--------------|----------|--------------------------------------|
| | 10:00 AM | Outdoor Worship Service |
| | 11:15 AM | Church Picnic |
| Monday: | 6:30 PM | Worship Service |
| Wednesday: | 6:30 AM | Grow Group – Dunn Bros. |
| | 1:00 PM | Grow Group – Culvers |
| Thursday: | 9:30 AM | Women's Bible Study |
| Saturday: | 8:00 AM | Men's Bible Study @ El Mexican |
| Next Sunday: | 8:45 AM | Bible Class |
| | 10:00 AM | Communion Service (Monday at 6:30pm) |

If this is your first time with us, we're so glad that you took a big step and came to worship. What's your next step?

Come back next week

Connecting with God at worship is a great way to spend time during your weekend.

Try "God & Me"

God & Me is the place to learn more about God's word in your life, for both long time-members and beginners who want to learn more about God's love, the Bible, and St. John's. A new session of classes will be starting soon. Connect with Pastor and/or check the box on your Connection Card if you'd like to know more.

Join a Grow Group

Grow Groups are small groups that get together in person or online to learn about God's Word. It's a safe, comfortable atmosphere to discuss the way God's love intersects our daily lives. If you are interested in joining or starting a Grow Group or Bible Study, mark the box on your Connection Card and we will reach out to you.

Service Opportunities

There are multiple areas to volunteer each Sunday to make worship happen well for those in person and online: Guest Services & Hospitality Team, Tech Team, & Worship Prep Team. Are you interested in serving? Mark the box on your Connection Card today!

Staff

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