

St. John Lutheran Church

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August 3, 2025



to St. John Lutheran Church and our Traditional Worship Service. We are so glad you have chosen to join us today and we pray your time with us will fill you with the love our Lord has for you.

Today's service includes the Lord's Supper. If you are a first-time visitor and wish to receive Holy Communion, please speak with one of our Elders or myself prior to service .

May God bless your worship with us today, Paul Kruse, Pastor

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Compelled by the Love of Christ to Live, Learn, Share, and Serve' Our Vision is to inspire the vibrant experience of Christian faith in our community, to all generations, wherever they may be'

Eighth Sunday after Pentecost

Divine Service One (pp 151ff)

Prelude Opening Song

Welcome and Sharing of the Peace "The Church's One Foundation" LSB 644

The Church's one foundation Is Jesus Christ, her Lord; She is His new creation By water and the Word. From heav'n He came and sought her To be His holy bride; With His own blood He bought her, And for her life He died.

Elect from ev'ry nation, Yet one o'er all the earth; Her charter of salvation: One Lord, one faith, one birth. One holy name she blesses, Partakes one holy food, And to one hope she presses With ev'ry grace endued.

Though with a scornful wonder The world sees her oppressed, By schisms rent asunder, By heresies distressed, Yet saints their watch are keeping; Their cry goes up, "How long?" And soon the night of weeping Shall be the morn of song.

Through toil and tribulation And tumult of her war She waits the consummation Of peace forevermore Till with the vision glorious Her longing eyes are blest, And the great Church victorious Shall be the Church at rest.

Yet she on earth has union With God, the Three in One, And mystic sweet communion With those whose rest is won. O blessèd heav'nly chorus! Lord, save us by Your grace That we, like saints before us, May see You face to face. Text: Samuel J. Stone, 1839–1900, alt. Text: Public domain

Invocation

- **■** In the name of the Father and of the **■** Son and of the Holy Spirit.
- C Amen.

The sign of the cross may be made by all in remembrance of their Baptism.

Confession and Forgiveness

- **L** If we say we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us.
- **G** But if we confess our sins, God, who is faithful and just, will forgive our sins and cleanse us from all unrighteousness.
- **L** Let us then confess our sins to God our Father.

Silence for reflection on God's Word and self-examination

- L 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.
- In the mercy of almighty God, Jesus Christ was given to die for us, and for His sake God forgives us all our sins. To those who believe in Jesus Christ He gives the power to become the children of God and bestows on them the Holy Spirit. May the Lord, who has begun this good work in us, bring it to completion in the day of our Lord Jesus Christ.
- C Amen.

Service of the Word

- **L** Hear this, all peoples!
- Give ear, all inhabitants of the world,
- L both low and high,
- G rich and poor together!
- L Truly no man can ransom another,
- **G** or give to God the price of his life,
- **L** for the ransom of their life is costly
- **G** and can never suffice.
- **L** This is the path of those who have foolish confidence;

G yet after them people approve of their boasts.

- L Like sheep they are appointed for Sheol;
- **G** death shall be their shepherd.
- L But God will ransom my soul from the power of Sheol,
- G for he will receive me. 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.

Lord, Have Mercy - Sung

- **L** In peace let us pray to the Lord.
- **G** Lord, have mercy.
- **I** For the peace from above and for our salvation let us pray to the Lord.
- **G** Lord, have mercy.
- **I** For the peace of the whole world, for the well-being of the Church of God, and for the unity of all let us pray to the Lord.
- **G** Lord, have mercy.
- **I** For this holy house and for all who offer here their worship and praise let us pray to the Lord.
- **G** Lord, have mercy.
- L Help, save, comfort, and defend us, gracious Lord.
- Amen.

Hymn of Praise Sung

This is the feast of victory for our God. Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia. Worthy is Christ, the Lamb who was slain, whose blood set us free to be people of God. This is the feast of victory for our God. Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia. Power, riches, wisdom and strength, and honor, blessing, and glory are His. This is the feast of victory for our God. Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia. Sing with all the people of God, and join in the hymn of all creation. Blessing, honor, glory, and might be to God and the Lamb forever. Amen. This is the feast of victory for our God. Alleluia, alleluia. For the Lamb who was slain has begun His reign. Alleluia. This is the feast of victory for our God. Alleluia.

Prayer of the Day

- **L** The Lord be with you.
- **G** And also with you.
- L Let us pray together...

LSB 152

O Lord, grant us wisdom to recognize the treasures You have stored up for us in heaven, that we may never despair but always rejoice and be thankful for the riches of Your grace; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

First Reading

Ecclesiastes 1:12-14 & 2:18-26

¹² I the Preacher have been king over Israel in Jerusalem. ¹³ And I applied my heart to seek and to search out by wisdom all that is done under heaven. It is an unhappy business that God has given to the children of man to be busy with. ¹⁴ I have seen everything that is done under the sun, and behold, all is vanity and a striving after wind.

¹⁸ I hated all my toil in which I toil under the sun, seeing that I must leave it to the man who will come after me, ¹⁹ and who knows whether he will be wise or a fool? Yet he will be master of all for which I toiled and used my wisdom under the sun. This also is vanity. ²⁰ So I turned about and gave my heart up to despair over all the toil of my labors under the sun, ²¹ because sometimes a person who has toiled with wisdom and knowledge and skill must leave everything to be enjoyed by someone who did not toil for it. This also is vanity and a great evil. ²² What has a man from all the toil and striving of heart with which he toils beneath the sun? ²³ For all his days are full of sorrow, and his work is a vexation. Even in the night his heart does not rest. This also is vanity. ²⁴ There is nothing better for a person than that he should eat and drink and find enjoyment in his toil. This also, I saw, is from the hand of God, ²⁵ for apart from him who can eat or who can have enjoyment? ²⁶ For to the one who pleases him God has given wisdom and knowledge and joy, but to the sinner he has given the business of gathering and collecting, only to give to one who pleases God. This also is vanity and a striving after wind.

A This is the Word of the Lord.

G Thanks be to God.

Alleluia Sung

LSB 156

Alleluia. Lord, to whom shall we go? You have the words of eternal life. Alleluia, alleluia.

Gospel Reading

I The Holy Gospel according to St. Luke, the twelfth chapter.



¹³ Someone in the crowd said to him, "Teacher, tell my brother to divide the inheritance with me." ¹⁴ But he said to him, "Man, who made me a judge or arbitrator over you?" ¹⁵ And he said to them, "Take care, and be on your guard against all covetousness, for one's life does not consist in the abundance of his possessions." ¹⁶ And he told them a parable, saying, "The land of a rich man produced plentifully, ¹⁷ and he thought to himself, 'What shall I do, for I have nowhere to store my crops?' ¹⁸ And he said, 'I will do this: I will tear down my barns and build larger ones, and there I will store all my grain and my goods. ¹⁹ And I will say to my soul, "Soul, you have ample goods laid up for many years; relax, eat, drink, be merry."' ²⁰ But God said to him, 'Fool! This night your soul is required of you, and the things you have prepared, whose will they be?' ²¹ So is the one who lays up treasure for himself and is not rich toward God."

L This is the Gospel of the Lord.



Nicene Creed

I believe in one God, the Father Almighty, maker of heaven and earth and of all things visible and invisible.

And in one Lord Jesus Christ, the only-begotten Son of God, begotten of His Father before all worlds, God of God, Light of Light, very God of very God, begotten, not made, being of one substance with the Father, by whom all things were made; who for us men and for our salvation came down from heaven and was incarnate by the Holy Spirit of the virgin Mary and was made man; and was crucified also for us under Pontius Pilate. He suffered and was buried. And the third day He rose again according to the Scriptures and ascended into heaven and sits at the right hand of the Father. And He will come again with glory to judge both the living and the dead, whose kingdom will have no end.

And I believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord and giver of life, who

proceeds from the Father and the Son, who with the Father and the Son together is worshiped and glorified, who spoke by the prophets. And I believe in one holy Christian and apostolic Church, I acknowledge one Baptism for the remission of sins, and I look for the resurrection of the dead and the life \mathbb{R} of the world to come. Amen.

Children's Message

Message Song

"O Jesus, King Most Wonderful" LSB 554

O Jesus, King most wonderful! O Conqueror renowned! O Source of peace ineffable, In whom all joys are found:

When once You visit darkened hearts, Then truth begins to shine, Then earthly vanity departs, Then kindles love divine.

O Jesus, light of all below, The fount of life and fire, Surpassing all the joys we know, All that we can desire:

May ev'ry heart confess Your name, Forever You adore, And, seeking You, itself inflame To seek You more and more!

Oh, may our tongues forever bless, May we love You alone And ever in our lives express The image of Your own!

Text: attr. Bernard of Clairvaux, 1091–1153; tr. Edward Caswall, 1814–78, alt. Text: Public domain

Message

Offering

Would you like to give online? Scan the QR code and it will take you directly to our donation site.

Offering Song - Sung

What shall I render to the Lord for all His benefits to me? I will offer the sacrifice of thanksgiving and will call on the name of the Lord. I will take the cup of salvation and will call on the name of the Lord. I will pay my vows to the Lord now in the presence of all His people, in the courts of the Lord's house, in the midst of you, O Jerusalem.

Prayer of the Church

Service of the Sacrament

- **P** The Lord be with you.
- **G** And also with you.
- **P** Lift up your hearts.
- **G** We lift them to the Lord.
- **P** Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.
- **G** It is right to give Him thanks and praise.
- It is truly good, right, and proper ... Therefore with angels and archangels and with all the company of heaven we laud and magnify Your glorious name, evermore praising You and singing:

Holy, Holy, Holy Lord – (Sung)

Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of pow'r and might: Heaven and earth are full of your glory. Hosanna. Hosanna. Hosanna in the highest. Blessed is He who comes in the name of the Lord. Hosanna in the highest.

Lord's Prayer

- **P** Lord, remember us in Your kingdom and teach us to pray:
- 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.

"Overly Confident"

LSB 159

LSB 162

The Peace of the Lord

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

Lamb of God - Sung

Lamb of God, You take away the sin of the world; have mercy on us. Lamb of God, You take away the sin of the world; have mercy on us. Lamb of God, You take away the sin of the world; grant us peace.

Distribution of the Holy Sacrament

The Lord gave this Holy Sacrament to His Church so that His followers might receive His love and forgiveness in a visible, tangible way. When the Church celebrates this Sacrament, believers are also making a public declaration of their faith in the Lord Jesus Christ (1 Cor. 11:26). Holy Communion is offered every Sunday at St. John Lutheran, but because it is possible to receive the Lord's Supper to one's detriment (1 Cor. 11:27-29), we ask all who wish to partake of it to examine themselves as follows:

- 1. Do I believe that I am a sinner and therefore deserve God's punishment?
- 2. Am I truly sorry that by my sins I have offended God?
- 3. Do I believe that God accepts the death of Jesus as payment for my sins and therefore forgives my sins for Jesus' sake alone and not because of any goodness or effort on my part?
- 4. Do I intend, with the help of the Holy Spirit, to turn from my sins?
- 5. Do I seek to forgive others as God has forgiven me?
- 6. Do I believe Christ's own Word that His body and blood are truly given and received in and with the bread and wine (Matt. 26:26-28)?

If you have been baptized into the Christian faith and can answer "**yes**" to the above questions, you are invited to receive Holy Communion with the assurance of all the blessings Scripture promises.

Distribution Song

"Your Table I Approach" LSB 628

Your table I approach;

Dear Savior, hear my prayer.

Let not an unrepentant heart

Prove hurtful to me there.

Lord, I confess my sins

And mourn their wretched bands;

A contrite heart is sure to find

Forgiveness at Your hands.

Your body and Your blood,

Once slain and shed for me,

Are taken at Your table, Lord,

LSB 162

LSB 163

In blest reality. Search not how this takes place, This wondrous mystery; God can accomplish vastly more Than what we think could be.

O grant, most blessèd Lord, That earth and hell combined May not about this sacrament Raise doubt within my mind.

Oh, may I never fail To thank You day and night For Your true body and true blood, O God, my peace and light. Text: Gerhard Wolter Molanus, 1633–1722; tr. Matthias Loy, 1828–1915, alt. Text: Public domain

Post-Communion Song Sung

LSB 164

C Thank the Lord and sing His praise; tell ev'ryone what He has done. Let all who seek the Lord rejoice and proudly bear His name. He recalls His promises and leads His people forth in joy with shouts of thanksgiving. Alleluia, alleluia.

Post-Communion Prayer

▶ Let us pray. We give thanks to You, almighty God, that You have refreshed us through this beneficial 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.



Blessing

- 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 \blacksquare give you peace.



Closing Song

Beautiful Savior LSB 537

Beautiful Savior, King of creation, Son of God and Son of Man! Truly I'd love Thee, Truly I'd serve Thee, Light of my soul, my joy, my crown.

Fair are the meadows, Fair are the woodlands, Robed in flow'rs of blooming spring; Jesus is fairer, Jesus is purer, He makes our sorr'wing spirit sing.

Fair is the sunshine, Fair is the moonlight, Bright the sparkling stars on high;Jesus shines brighter, Jesus shines purer Than all the angels in the sky.

Beautiful Savior, Lord of the nations, Son of God and Son of Man! Glory and honor, Praise, adoration Now and forevermore be Thine!

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Sermon Notes

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