



St. John Lutheran Church

Missouri Synod
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9:00 - Traditional



September 21, 2025

Welcome

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

E-mail: paul@stjohnhl.com

Mobile: 989-992-6030

***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'

Fifteenth Sunday after Pentecost

Divine Service Three (pp 184ff)

Prelude

Welcome and Sharing of the Peace

Opening Song

"We Give Thee But Thine Own" LSB 781

We give Thee but Thine own,
Whate'er the gift may be;
All that we have is Thine alone,
A trust, O Lord, from Thee.
May we Thy bounties thus
As stewards true receive
And gladly, as Thou blessest us,
To Thee our firstfruits give!
Oh, hearts are bruised and dead,
And homes are bare and cold,
And lambs for whom the Shepherd bled
Are straying from the fold.
To comfort and to bless,
To find a balm for woe,
To tend the lone and fatherless
Is angels' work below.
The captive to release,
To God the lost to bring,
To teach the way of life and peace,
It is a Christ-like thing.
And we believe Thy Word,
Though dim our faith may be:
Whate'er for Thine we do, O Lord,
We do it unto Thee.

Text: William W. How, 1823–97 Text: Public domain

Invocation

LSB 184

L In the name of the Father and of the ☩ Son and of the Holy Spirit.

G Amen.

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

Confession and Forgiveness

L Beloved in the Lord! Let us draw near with a true heart and confess our sins unto God our Father, beseeching Him in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ to grant us forgiveness.

L Our help is in the name of the Lord,

G **who made heaven and earth.**

L I said, I will confess my transgressions unto the Lord,

G **and You forgave the iniquity of my sin.**

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

L Almighty God, our maker and redeemer, we poor sinners confess unto You that we are by nature sinful and unclean and that we have sinned against You by thought, word, and deed. Wherefore we flee for refuge to Your infinite mercy, seeking and imploring Your grace for the sake of our Lord Jesus Christ.

G **O most merciful God, who has given Your only-begotten Son to die for us, have mercy upon us and for His sake grant us remission of all our sins; and by Your Holy Spirit increase in us true knowledge of You and of Your will and true obedience to Your Word, to the end that by Your grace we may come to everlasting life; through Jesus Christ, our Lord. Amen.**

L Almighty God, our heavenly Father, has had mercy upon us and has given His only Son to die for us and for His sake forgives us all our sins. To those who believe on His name He gives power to become the children of God and has promised them His Holy Spirit. He that believes and is baptized shall be saved. Grant this, Lord, unto us all.

G Amen.

Service of the Word

L Your testimonies are righteous forever;

G **give me understanding that I may live.**

L Righteous are you, O Lord,

G **and right are your just decrees.**

- L** You have appointed your testimonies in righteousness
- C** **and in all faithfulness.**
- L** My zeal consumes me,
- C** **because my foes forget your words.**
- L** Your promise is well tried,
- C** **and your servant loves it.**
- L** Your righteousness is righteous forever,
- C** **and your law is true.**

Gloria be to the Father *(Sung)*

LSB 186

- C** **Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Ghost; as it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be, world without end. Amen.**

Lord, Have Mercy *(Sung)*

LSB 186

- C** **Lord, have mercy upon us. Christ, have mercy upon us. Lord, have mercy upon us.**

Song of Praise *(Sung)*

LSB 187

- L** Glory be to God on High,
- C** **and on earth peace, goodwill toward men. We praise Thee, we bless Thee, we worship Thee, we glorify Thee, we give thanks to Thee, for Thy great glory. O Lord God, heav'nly King, God the Father Almighty. O Lord, the only-begotten Son, Jesus Christ; O Lord God, Lamb of God, Son of the Father, that takest away the sin of the world, have mercy upon us. Thou that takest away the sin of the world, receive our prayer. Thou that sittest at the right hand of God the Father, have mercy upon us. For Thou only art holy; Thou only art the Lord. Thou only, O Christ, with the Holy Ghost, art most high in the glory of God the Father. Amen.**

Prayer of the Day

- L** The Lord be with you.
- C** **And with thy spirit.**
- L** Let us pray together...
- C** **O Lord, keep Your Church in Your perpetual mercy; and because without You we cannot but fall, preserve us from all things hurtful, and lead us to all things profitable to our salvation; 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

Ephesians 4:7, 11-14

⁷ But grace was given to each one of us according to the measure of Christ's gift.

¹¹ And he gave the apostles, the prophets, the evangelists, the shepherds and teachers, ¹² to equip the saints for the work of ministry, for building up the body of Christ, ¹³ until we all attain to the unity of the faith and of the knowledge of the Son of God, to mature manhood, to the measure of the stature of the fullness of Christ, ¹⁴ so that we may no longer be children, tossed to and fro by the waves and carried about by every wind of doctrine, by human cunning, by craftiness in deceitful schemes.

A This is the Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

Alleluia *(Sung)*

LSB 190

C Alleluia. Alleluia. Alleluia.

Gospel Reading

Luke 16:10-15

L The Holy Gospel according to Luke, the sixteenth chapter.



C Glo - ry be to Thee, O Lord.

¹⁰ "One who is faithful in a very little is also faithful in much, and one who is dishonest in a very little is also dishonest in much. ¹¹ If then you have not been faithful in the unrighteous wealth, who will entrust to you the true riches? ¹² And if you have not been faithful in that which is another's, who will give you that which is your own? ¹³ No servant can serve two masters, for either he will hate the one and love the other, or he will be devoted to the one and despise the other. You cannot serve God and money." ¹⁴ The Pharisees, who were lovers of money, heard all these things, and they ridiculed him. ¹⁵ And he said to them, "You are those who justify yourselves before men, but God knows your hearts. For what is exalted among men is an abomination in the sight of God."

L This is the Gospel of the Lord.



C Praise be to Thee, O Christ.

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 ☩ of the world to come. Amen.

Children's Message

Message Song

"Take My Life and Let It Be" *LSB 783*

Take my life and let it be
Consecrated, Lord, to Thee;
Take my moments and my days,
Let them flow in ceaseless praise.
Take my hands and let them move
At the impulse of Thy love;
Take my feet and let them be
Swift and beautiful for Thee.
Take my voice and let me sing
Always, only for my King;
Take my lips and let them be
Filled with messages from Thee.
Take my silver and my gold,

Not a mite would I withhold;
Take my intellect and use
Ev'ry pow'r as Thou shalt choose.
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.
Take my love, my Lord, I pour
At Thy feet its treasure store;
Take myself, and I will be
Ever, only, all for Thee.

Text: Frances R. Havergal, 1836–79 Text: Public domain

Message

“The Tale of the Tape”

Offering

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



Offering Song - Sung

LSB 192

- ☐ Create in me a clean heart, O God, and renew a right spirit within me. Cast me not away from Thy presence, and take not Thy Holy Spirit from me. Restore unto me the joy of Thy salvation, and uphold me with Thy free spirit. Amen.**

Prayer of the Church

Service of the Sacrament

- ☐** The Lord be with you.
☐ And with thy spirit.
☐ Lift up your hearts.
☐ We lift them up unto the Lord.
☐ Let us give thanks unto the Lord our God.
☐ 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 *(Sung)*

LSB 195

- C** Holy, holy, holy Lord God of Sabaoth; heav'n and earth are full of Thy glory. Hosanna, hosanna, hosanna in the highest. Blessed is He, blessed is He, blessed is He that cometh in the name of the Lord. Hosanna, hosanna, hosanna in the highest.

Lord's Prayer

- P** Lord, remember us in Your kingdom and teach us to pray: LSB 196

- C** 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.



- C** For Thine is the kingdom and the power and the



- glo - ry for - ev - er and ev - er. A - men.

The Words of Our Lord

LSB 197

The Peace of the Lord

LSB 197

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



- C** A - men.

Lamb of God *(Sung)*

LSB 198

- C** O Christ, Thou Lamb of God, that takest away the sin of the world, have mercy upon us. O Christ, Thou Lamb of God, that takest away the sin of the world, have mercy upon us. O Christ, Thou Lamb of God, that takest away the sin of the world, grant us Thy peace. Amen.

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 week 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 present and received in, with, and under 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. Children and those who do not subscribe to these statements are welcome to come forward to receive a blessing and should indicate this by keeping their hand folded.

Distribution Hymn

"O Living Bread from Heaven" LSB 642

O living Bread from heaven,
How well You feed your guest!
The gifts that You have given
Have filled my heart with rest.
Oh, wondrous food of blessing,
Oh, cup that heals our woes!
My heart, this gift possessing,
With praises overflows.

My Lord, You here have led me
To this most holy place
And with Yourself have fed me
The treasures of Your grace;
For You have freely given

What earth could never buy,
The bread of life from heaven,
That now I shall not die.

You gave me all I wanted;
This food can death destroy.
And You have freely granted
The cup of endless joy.
My Lord, I do not merit
The favor You have shown,
And all my soul and spirit
Bow down before Your throne.

Lord, grant me then, thus strengthened
With heav'nly food, while here
My course on earth is lengthened,
To serve with holy fear.
And when You call my spirit
To leave this world below,
I enter, through Your merit,
Where joys unmingled flow.

Text: Johann Rist, 1607–67; tr. Catherine Winkworth, 1827–78, alt. Text: Public domain

Song of Simeon *(Sung)*

LSB 199

☐ Lord, now lettest Thou Thy servant depart in peace according to Thy word, for mine eyes have seen Thy salvation, which Thou hast prepared before the face of all people, a light to lighten the Gentiles and the glory of Thy people Israel. Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Ghost, as it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be, world without end. Amen.

Post-Communion Prayer

P 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.

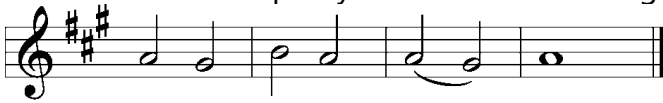


C A - men.

Blessing

LSB 202

- L** 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 ✕ give you peace.



C A-men, a-men, a - men.

Closing Song

"We Praise You O God" LSB 785

We praise You, O God, our Redeemer, Creator;
In grateful devotion our tribute we bring.
We lay it before You, we kneel and adore You;
We bless Your holy name, glad praises we sing.

We worship You, God of our fathers, we bless You;
Through trial and tempest our guide You have been
When perils o'ertake us, You will not forsake us,
And with Your help, O Lord, our struggles we win.

With voices united our praises we offer
And gladly our songs of thanksgiving we raise.
With You, Lord, beside us, Your strong arm will guide us.
To You, our great Redeemer, forever be praise!

Text: Julia B. Cory, 1882–1963, alt.
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Acknowledgments

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