

ST. JOHN LUTHERAN CHURCH & SCHOOL

Berlin, Wisconsin

The Lutheran Church – Missouri Synod



*But the wisdom  
that comes from heaven  
is first of all pure;  
then peace-loving,  
considerate,  
submissive,  
full of mercy  
& good fruit,  
impartial & sincere.*

Seventeenth Sunday After Pentecost

September 16/19, 2021

Serving Us Today:

Pastor Paul Mundinger

Organist: Nancy Wallner

920-361-9935

*James 3:17*

[www.stjohnberlin.org](http://www.stjohnberlin.org)

(To Our Guests: The Lord's Supper is celebrated at St. John Lutheran Church in the confession and glad confidence that our Lord, as He says, gives not only bread and wine, but His very body and blood to eat and drink for the forgiveness of sin. In joyful obedience to the clear teaching of our Lord Jesus those are invited to His table who trust His words, repent of all sin, and set aside any refusal to forgive and love as He forgives and loves us. They show forth His death until He comes. Because Holy Communion is a confession of the faith which is confessed at this altar, any who are not yet instructed, in doubt, or who hold a confession differing from that of The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod and so are unable to receive the Sacrament are invited to meditate on God's Word in the distribution hymn and pray for the day when divisions will have ceased. Please note that there is a cup of white grape juice in each tray which contains a drop of wine for those who prefer grape juice. Thank you!)

**AS WE GATHER...** Jesus' disciples did not understand the prophecy about His death and resurrection. They focused, instead, on their personal greatness. So, He inverted their viewpoint, using a child to explain that true greatness is in humble servanthood, in welcoming even children (then

considered to be without status). But our inner passions rebel and war against such servanthood, as James explains in the Epistle. Fortunately, by the gracious gift of faith, in place of personal struggles, we can rely on God, as Jeremiah does in the Old Testament Reading and David in today's psalm. This is the humble wisdom James tells us about in the epistle reading. Our Lord is the humblest and therefore greatest Servant, and by His death and resurrection He has proclaimed that God's grace knows no bounds. Confidently, we can follow Him in humble servanthood each day.

**CHILDREN'S WORSHIP HELPS...** Please know we have two children's worship bulletins available for young non-readers and older children. Both bulletins have activities that go along with the weekly theme. We also have activity bags for children hanging on the rear wall of the church for use throughout the worship service. If needed we have a cry room/nursery (with changing table) behind the organ in the southwest corner of the church.

## **PRE-SERVICE MUSIC**

### **RINGING OF THE BELLS**

## **WELCOME**

### **Confession and Absolution**

#### **688 "Come, Follow Me," the Savior Spake**

- 1 "Come, follow Me," the Savior spake,  
"All in My way abiding;  
Deny yourselves, the world forsake,  
Obey My call and guiding.  
O bear the cross, whate'er betide,  
Take My example for your guide.
  
- 2 "I am the light, I light the way,  
A godly life displaying;  
I bid you walk as in the day;  
I keep your feet from straying.  
I am the way, and well I show  
How you must sojourn here below.
  
- 3 "My heart abounds in lowliness,  
My soul with love is glowing;  
And gracious words My lips express,  
With meekness overflowing.  
My heart, My mind, My strength, My all,  
To God I yield, on Him I call.

4 "I teach you how to shun and flee  
What harms your soul's salvation,  
Your heart from ev'ry guile to free,  
From sin and its temptation.  
I am the refuge of the soul  
And lead you to your heav'nly goal."

5 Then let us follow Christ, our Lord,  
And take the cross appointed  
And, firmly clinging to His Word,  
In suff'ring be undaunted.  
For those who bear the battle's strain  
The crown of heav'nly life obtain.

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

P In the name of the Father and of the + Son and of the Holy Spirit.

C **Amen.**

P If we say we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us.

C **But if we confess our sins, God, who is faithful and just, will forgive our sins and cleanse us from all unrighteousness.**

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

P Let us then confess our sins to God our Father.

C **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.**

- P Almighty God in His mercy has given His Son to die for you and for His sake forgives you all your sins. As a called and ordained servant of Christ, and by His authority, I therefore forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the + Son and of the Holy Spirit.
- C **Amen.**

### Service of the Word

**Introit** *Ps. 37:5–7; antiphon: Ps. 37:4*

Delight yourself in the LORD  
and he will give you the desires of your heart.

**Commit your way to the LORD;  
trust in him, and he will act.**

He will bring forth your righteousness as the light,  
and your justice as the noonday.

**Be still before the LORD and wait patiently for him;  
fret not yourself over the one who prospers in his way, over the man who carries out evil  
devices!**

**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.**

Delight yourself in the LORD,  
and he will give you the desires of your heart.

**Kyrie** *LSB 152*

- P In peace let us pray to the Lord.  
C **Lord, have mercy.**

- P For the peace from above and for our salvation let us pray to the Lord.  
C **Lord, have mercy.**

- P 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.  
C **Lord, have mercy.**

- P For this holy house and for all who offer here their worship and praise let us pray to the Lord.

**C Lord, have mercy.**

**P Help, save, comfort, and defend us, gracious Lord.**

**C Amen.**

**This Is the Feast** *LSB 155*

**C 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, alleluia.**

**For the Lamb who was slain has begun His reign. Alleluia.**

**This is the feast of victory for our God.  
Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.**

**Salutation and Collect of the Day**

**P: The Lord be with you.**

**C: And also with you.**

**P: Let us pray.**

**All O God, whose strength is made perfect in weakness, grant us humility and childlike faith that we may please You in both will and deed; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.**

**Old Testament Reading** *Jeremiah 11:18–20 (The prophet relies on God's protection as his opponents plot against him.)*

<sup>18</sup>The LORD made it known to me and I knew;  
then you showed me their deeds.

<sup>19</sup>But I was like a gentle lamb  
led to the slaughter.

I did not know it was against me  
they devised schemes, saying,

“Let us destroy the tree with its fruit,  
let us cut him off from the land of the living,  
that his name be remembered no more.”

<sup>20</sup>But, O LORD of hosts, who judges righteously,  
who tests the heart and the mind,  
let me see your vengeance upon them,  
for to you have I committed my cause.

P This is the Word of the Lord.

C **Thanks be to God.**

**Psalm** *Psalm 54 (antiphon: v. 4)*

<sup>1</sup>O God, save me, by your name,  
and vindicate me by your might.

<sup>2</sup>**O God, hear my prayer;  
give ear to the words of my mouth.**

<sup>3</sup>For strangers have risen against me;  
ruthless men seek my life;  
they do not set God before themselves.

<sup>4</sup>**Behold, God is my helper;  
the Lord is the upholder of my life.**

<sup>5</sup>He will return the evil to my enemies;  
in your faithfulness put an end to them.

<sup>6</sup>**With a freewill offering I will sacrifice to you;  
I will give thanks to your name, O LORD, for it is good.**

<sup>7</sup>For he has delivered me from every trouble,  
and my eye has looked in triumph on my enemies.

**Epistle** *James 3:13—4:10 (The apostle proclaims God's peace even as we struggle with inner warfare.)*

<sup>13</sup>Who is wise and understanding among you? By his good conduct let him show his works in the meekness of wisdom. <sup>14</sup>But if you have bitter jealousy and selfish ambition in your hearts, do not boast and be false to the truth. <sup>15</sup>This is not the wisdom that comes down from above, but is earthly, unspiritual, demonic. <sup>16</sup>For where jealousy and selfish ambition exist, there will be disorder and every vile practice. <sup>17</sup>But the wisdom from above is first pure, then peaceable, gentle, open to reason, full of mercy and good fruits, impartial and sincere. <sup>18</sup>And a harvest of righteousness is sown in peace by those who make peace.

<sup>1</sup>What causes quarrels and what causes fights among you? Is it not this, that your passions are at war within you? <sup>2</sup>You desire and do not have, so you murder. You covet and cannot obtain, so you fight and quarrel. You do not have, because you do not ask. <sup>3</sup>You ask and do not receive, because you ask wrongly, to spend it on your passions. <sup>4</sup>You adulterous people! Do you not know that friendship with the world is enmity with God? Therefore whoever wishes to be a friend of the world makes himself an enemy of God. <sup>5</sup>Or do you suppose it is to no purpose that the Scripture says, "He yearns jealously over the spirit that he has made to dwell in us"? <sup>6</sup>But he gives more grace. Therefore it says, "God opposes the proud, but gives grace to the humble." <sup>7</sup>Submit yourselves therefore to God. Resist the devil, and he will flee from you. <sup>8</sup>Draw near to God, and he will draw near to you. Cleanse your hands, you sinners, and purify your hearts, you double-minded. <sup>9</sup>Be wretched and mourn and weep. Let your laughter be turned to mourning and your joy to gloom. <sup>10</sup>Humble yourselves before the Lord, and he will exalt you.

P This is the Word of the Lord.

C **Thanks be to God.**

**Alleluia and Verse** *LSB 156*

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

**Holy Gospel** *Mark 9:30–37 (After prophesying His death and resurrection, Jesus teaches His disciples to serve humbly.)*

P The Holy Gospel according to St. Mark, the ninth chapter.

C **Glory be to You, O Lord.**

<sup>30</sup>[The disciples] went on from there and passed through Galilee. And [Jesus] did not want anyone to know,  
<sup>31</sup>for he was teaching his disciples, saying to them, "The Son of Man is going to be delivered into the hands of men, and they will kill him. And when he is killed, after three days he will rise." <sup>32</sup>But they did not understand the saying, and were afraid to ask him.

<sup>33</sup>And they came to Capernaum. And when he was in the house he asked them, "What were you discussing on the way?" <sup>34</sup>But they kept silent, for on the way they had argued with one another about who was the greatest. <sup>35</sup>And he sat down and called the twelve. And he said to them, "If anyone would be first, he must be last of all and servant of all." <sup>36</sup>And he took a child and put him in the midst of them, and taking him in his arms, he said to them, <sup>37</sup>"Whoever receives one such child in my name receives me, and whoever receives me, receives not me but him who sent me."

P This is the Gospel of the Lord.

**C Praise be to You, O Christ.**

## **Children's Message**

### **851 Lord of Glory, You Have Bought Us**

- 1 Lord of glory, You have bought us  
With Your lifeblood as the price,  
Never grudging for the lost ones  
That tremendous sacrifice;  
And with that have freely given  
Blessings countless as the sand  
To the\_unthankful and the evil  
With Your own unsparing hand.
  
- 2 Grant us hearts, dear Lord, to give You  
Gladly, freely of Your own.  
With the sunshine of Your goodness  
Melt our thankless hearts of stone  
Till our cold and selfish natures,  
Warmed by You, at length believe  
That more happy and more blessed  
'Tis to give than to receive.
  
- 3 Wondrous honor You have given  
To our humblest charity  
In Your own mysterious sentence,  
"You have done it all to Me."  
Can it be, O gracious Master,  
That You deign for alms to sue,  
Saying by Your poor and needy,  
"Give as I have giv'n to you"?



4 Lord of glory, You have bought us  
With Your lifeblood as the price,  
Never grudging for the lost ones  
That tremendous sacrifice.  
Give us faith to trust You boldly,  
Hope, to stay our souls on You;  
But, oh, best of all Your graces,  
With Your love our love renew.

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**Sermon** "Heavenly Wisdom" (James 3:17)

### **Apostles' Creed**

**C I believe in God, the Father Almighty,  
maker of heaven and earth.**

**And 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 sits at the right hand of God the Father Almighty.  
From thence 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.**

### **Prayer of the Church**

P: Let us pray for the nations around the world, the Church wherever it is found, and for ourselves here in this place.

Wherever nations quarrel and plunge toward war, O God, open the ears of their leaders to hear the wisdom from above and pursue peace. Move them to find joy in humble service. Lord, in Your mercy,

**C hear our prayer.**

P: Wherever international alliances, national leaders, and groups within society follow the lead of their selfish ambitions at the expense of the downtrodden and forgotten people across borders and in their midst, O God, give both citizens and their leaders hearts that are open to reason, full of mercy, impartial and sincere. Grant that peace break out across borders and justice within them. Lord, in Your mercy,

**C hear our prayer.**

P: Wherever people respond to illness, accident, injustice, and discrimination, O God, strengthen them to rely on You for protection in all circumstances. Guide them to make decisions in wisdom and to sow righteousness in peace. Lord, in Your mercy.

**C hear our prayer.**

P: Wherever people call out to You in their distress, [*especially...*], O God, visit, relieve, heal, and console them according to Your gracious will. Lord, in your mercy,

**C hear our prayer.**

P: Whenever we pridefully seek to solve our problems by our own strength, O God, remind us of Your faithfulness, constant presence, and gracious protection for Jesus' sake. Show us how to humbly serve the people around us as You have served us. Lord, in Your mercy,

**C hear our prayer.**

P: Heavenly Father, hear us and all for whom we pray, as we rely on Your gracious plans for all we need; through Your Son, Jesus Christ, our Lord.

**C Amen.**

## **Offering**

### **Offertory** *LSB 159*

**C 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.**

## Service of the Sacrament

### Preface *LSB 160*

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 Him thanks and praise.**

P It is truly good, right, and salutary that we should at all times and in all places give thanks to You, holy Lord, almighty Father, everlasting God, through Jesus Christ, our Lord, who on this day overcame death and the grave and by His glorious resurrection opened to us the way of everlasting life. Therefore with angels and archangels and with all the company of heaven we laud and magnify Your glorious name, evermore praising You and singing:

### Sanctus *LSB 161*

C **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 *LSB 162*

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

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.**

**For Thine is the kingdom and the power and the glory forever and ever. Amen.**

## **The Words of Our Lord** *LSB 162*

### **Pax Domini** *LSB 163*

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

### **Agnus Dei** *LSB 163*

- C **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 Hymns**

### **730 What Is the World to Me**

- 1       What is the world to me  
          With all its vaunted pleasure  
When You, and You alone,  
          Lord Jesus, are my treasure!  
You only, dearest Lord,  
          My soul's delight shall be;  
You are my peace, my rest.  
          What is the world to me!
- 2       The world seeks to be praised  
          And honored by the mighty  
Yet never once reflects  
          That they are frail and flighty.  
But what I truly prize  
          Above all things is He,  
My Jesus, He alone.  
          What is the world to me!
- 3       The world seeks after wealth  
          And all that mammon offers  
Yet never is content  
          Though gold should fill its coffers.  
I have a higher good,  
          Content with it I'll be:

My Jesus is my wealth.

What is the world to me!

4 What is the world to me!

My Jesus is my treasure,  
My life, my health, my wealth,  
My friend, my love, my pleasure,  
My joy, my crown, my all,  
My bliss eternally.

Once more, then, I declare:

What is the world to me!

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## 620 Jesus Comes Today with Healing

1 Jesus comes today with healing,  
Knocking at my door, appealing,  
Off'ring pardon, grace, and peace.  
He Himself makes preparation,  
And I hear His invitation:  
"Come and taste the blessed feast."

2 Christ Himself, the priest presiding,  
Yet in bread and wine abiding  
In this holy sacrament,  
Gives the bread of life, once broken,  
And the cup, the precious token  
Of His sacred covenant.

3 Under bread and wine, though lowly,  
I receive the Savior holy,  
Blood and body, giv'n for me,  
Very Lamb of God from heaven,  
Who to bitter death was given,  
Hung upon the cursed tree.

4 God descends with heav'nly power,  
Gives Himself to me this hour  
In this ordinary sign.  
On my tongue His pledge receiving,  
I accept His grace, believing  
That I taste His love divine.

5 Let me praise God's boundless favor,  
Whose own feast of love I savor,  
    Bidden by His gracious call.  
Wedding garments He provides me,  
With a robe of white He hides me,  
    Fits me for the royal hall.

6 Now have I found consolation,  
Comfort in my tribulation,  
    Balm to heal the troubled soul.  
God, my shield from ev'ry terror,  
Cleanses me from sin and error,  
    Makes my wounded spirit whole.

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**Post-Communion Canticle** "Thank the Lord

*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 Collect**

P Let us pray.

We give thanks to You, almighty God, that You have refreshed us through this salutary gift, and we implore You that of Your mercy You would strengthen us through the same in faith toward You and 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 **Amen.**

**Benediction** *LSB 166*

P 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 **Amen.**

## 677 For All the Saints

- 1 For all the saints who from their labors rest,  
Who Thee by faith before the world confessed,  
Thy name, O Jesus, be forever blest.  
Alleluia! Alleluia!
- 4 Oh, blest communion, fellowship divine!  
We feebly struggle, they in glory shine;  
Yet all are one in Thee, for all are Thine.  
Alleluia! Alleluia!
- 5 And when the fight is fierce, the warfare long,  
Steals on the ear the distant triumph song,  
And hearts are brave again, and arms are strong.  
Alleluia! Alleluia!
- Δ8 From earth's wide bounds, from ocean's farthest coast,  
Through gates of pearl streams in the countless host,  
Singing to Father, Son, and Holy Ghost:  
Alleluia! Alleluia!

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### Acknowledgments

Divine Service, Setting One from Lutheran Service Book

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**Attendance Last Week: 177**

**General giving last week: \$6133.67**

**Budget giving needed: \$7500.00**

### Calendar of Activities this week at St. John

20 Monday	Council Meeting	6:00 pm
20 Monday	LWML Meeting	6:30 pm

21 Tuesday	Altar Guild Potluck	6:00 pm
22 Wednesday	Public Confirmation	3:45 pm
22 Wednesday	Senior Choir	7:00 pm
23 Thursday	Worship Service/HC	6:30 pm
26 Sunday	Worship Service/HC	9:00 am
26 Sunday	Sunday School	10:15 am
26 Sunday	Bible Class	10:15 am

**PORTALS OF PRAYER:** The new October-December issue of Portals of Prayer is now available. Large Print are on table in the Narthex. Regular print are in the information rack.

**HAPPY SCRIP-TEMBER FROM KWIK TRIP!** Kwik Trip is doubling their discount in the month of September. Take advantage of a **10% discount** on your Kwik Trip Scrip Cards.

**NEW SCHOOL SIGN:** The Board of Trustees and the Church Council are looking into replacing the current sign on the corner of Mound and SW Franklin with a Digital Display that could be updated with various messages and announcements for School and Church activities. Early estimates are in the \$12,000 to \$17,000 range. If you would like to make a special contribution towards a new sign please place it in a separate envelope marked "School Sign" **.\*\* An offer has been made to match all new donations to a total maximum of \$2500 until October 1st.\*\***

### **RESOURCES AVAILABLE ON THE WEB**

#### **WWW.STJOHNBERLIN.ORG:**

Enter the CHURCH section by clicking on the left portal at the entry page. Once there, you will see tabs for access to the video recording of the weekly church service, copies of the bulletin, the newsletter, the monthly calendar, and other resources. You can also visit the St. John School web pages from a tab in the church section.



SERMON OUTLINE  
September 16/19, 2021  
Theme: "Heavenly Wisdom"  
(James 3:17)

**I. What Would You Ask For?**

- A. It would be hard to \_\_\_\_\_ out the most important things.
- B. Solomon asked for \_\_\_\_\_.
- C. Knowledge and wisdom are not the \_\_\_\_\_ thing.
- D. To really know God is the beginning of \_\_\_\_\_.
- E. Wisdom has to do with \_\_\_\_\_.
- F. Christians are often times labeled as \_\_\_\_\_ for believing in Jesus.
- G. The \_\_\_\_\_ says in his heart: "There is no God!"

**II. True Wisdom**

- A. A wise person knows what it is to live our lives for \_\_\_\_\_
- B. A wise person turns his back on \_\_\_\_\_.
- C. A wise person strives to be peaceful, gentle, and \_\_\_\_\_.
- D. Whenever we cause hurt to our selves and others, we are following he wisdom of the \_\_\_\_\_.
- E. \_\_\_\_\_ is what causes us to sometimes act like fools.
- F. Heavenly wisdom allows us to see our sin and see the love of \_\_\_\_\_ at work in our lives.!