

**St. John Lutheran Church & School
Berlin, Wisconsin
The Lutheran Church – Missouri Synod**



**“Eternal God, merciful
Father, You have
appointed Your Son as
judge of the living and
the dead. Enable us to
wait for the day of His
return with our eyes
fixed on the kingdom
prepared for Your own
from the foundation of
the world.”**

**Serving Us Today:
Pastor Robert Busse – Thursday
Organist: Cindy Schuett
920-361-9935
www.stjohnberlin.org**

**November 26, 2023
The Last Sunday of the Church Year**

Large Print Bulletin

(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... Too often we think about God's being up in His heaven, looking down on us. Today's Readings give us the correct perspective. Through Ezekiel, God announces that He is the One who will provide pasture for His people and that He will send them David to be their king. In the Psalm, we reflect that God is our maker. Christ is not only the first to rise from death, Paul explains in the Epistle; He is also the foremost, the One to subject all things under Him. And so His decisions when judging on the Last Day cannot be questioned. First and foremost, then, today is a day to let God's Word give us a correct perspective. This last Sunday of the Church Year is an opportunity to "make a joyful noise to Him with songs of praise" (Psalm 95:2).

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

Ringling of the Bells

Welcome

Confession and Absolution

905

905 Come, Thou Almighty King

- 1 Come, Thou almighty King,
Help us Thy name to sing;
Help us to praise;
Father all-glorious,
O'er all victorious,
Come and reign over us,
Ancient of Days.

- 2 Come, Thou incarnate Word,
Gird on Thy mighty sword;
Our prayer attend.
Come and Thy people bless,
And give Thy Word success,

And let Thy righteousness
On us descend.

3 Come, holy Comforter,
Thy sacred witness bear
In this glad hour!
Thou, who almighty art,
Now rule in ev'ry heart,
And ne'er from us depart,
Spirit of pow'r.

△ 4 To Thee, great One in Three,
Eternal praises be
Hence evermore!
Thy sov'reign majesty
May we in glory see,
And to eternity
Love and adore.

Text: English, before 1760, alt. Text: Public domain

*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 Our help is in the name of the Lord,
C who made heaven and earth.

P If You, O Lord, kept a record of sins, O Lord, who could stand?

C But with You there is forgiveness; therefore You are feared.

P Since we are gathered to hear God's Word, call upon Him in prayer and praise, and receive the body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ in the fellowship of this altar, let us first consider our unworthiness and confess before God and one another that we have sinned in thought, word, and deed, and that we cannot free ourselves from our sinful condition. Together as His people let us take refuge in the infinite mercy of God, our heavenly Father, seeking His grace for the sake of Christ, and saying: God, be merciful to me, a sinner.

C Almighty God, have mercy upon us, forgive us our sins, and lead us to everlasting life. 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

Psalm 39:4–5a, 7–8, 12; antiphon: 2 Peter 3:13 NIV

In keeping with his promise we are looking forward to a new heaven and a new earth, the home of righteousness.

O LORD, make me know my end and what is the measure of my days; let me know how fleeting I am!

Behold, you have made my days a few handbreadths,
and my lifetime is as nothing before you.

And now, O Lord, for what do I wait?

My hope is in you.

Deliver me from all my transgressions.

Do not make me the scorn of the fool!

**Hear my prayer, O LORD, and give ear to my cry; hold not
your peace at my tears!**

For I am a sojourner with you, a guest, like all my fathers.

**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.**

In keeping with his promise we are looking forward to a new
heaven and a new earth, the home of righteousness.

Kyrie *LSB 204*

C Lord, have mercy.

Christ, have mercy.

Lord, have mercy.

Gloria in Excelsis *LSB 204*

C To God on high be glory

And peace to all the earth;

Goodwill from God in heaven

Proclaimed at Jesus' birth!

We praise and bless You, Father;

**Your holy name we sing—
Our thanks for Your great glory,
Lord God, our heav'nly King.**

**To You, O sole-begotten,
The Father's Son, we pray;
O Lamb of God, our Savior,
You take our sins away.
Have mercy on us, Jesus;
Receive our heartfelt cry,
Where You in pow'r are seated
At God's right hand on high—**

**For You alone are holy,
You only are the Lord.
Forever and forever,
Be worshiped and adored;
You with the Holy Spirit
Alone are Lord Most High,
In God the Father's glory.
"Amen!" our glad reply.**

Salutation and Collect of the Day

P The Lord be with you.

C And also with you.

P Let us pray.

**ALL: Eternal God, merciful Father, You have appointed Your Son
as judge of the living and the dead. Enable us to wait for the**

day of His return with our eyes fixed on the kingdom prepared for Your own from the foundation of the world; through Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

Old Testament Reading

Ezekiel 34:11–16, 20–24

(God will shepherd His people Himself.)

¹¹“For thus says the Lord GOD: Behold, I, I myself will search for my sheep and will seek them out. ¹²As a shepherd seeks out his flock when he is among his sheep that have been scattered, so will I seek out my sheep, and I will rescue them from all places where they have been scattered on a day of clouds and thick darkness. ¹³And I will bring them out from the peoples and gather them from the countries, and will bring them into their own land. And I will feed them on the mountains of Israel, by the ravines, and in all the inhabited places of the country. ¹⁴I will feed them with good pasture, and on the mountain heights of Israel shall be their grazing land. There they shall lie down in good grazing land, and on rich pasture they shall feed on the mountains of Israel. ¹⁵I myself will be the shepherd of my sheep, and I myself will make them lie down, declares the Lord GOD. ¹⁶I will seek the lost, and I will bring back the strayed, and I will bind up the injured, and I will strengthen the weak, and the fat and the strong I will destroy. I will feed them in justice. . . .

²⁰“Therefore, thus says the Lord GOD to them: Behold, I, I myself will judge between the fat sheep and the lean sheep. ²¹Because you push with side and shoulder, and thrust at all the weak with your horns, till you have scattered them abroad, ²²I will rescue my flock;

they shall no longer be a prey. And I will judge between sheep and sheep. ²³And I will set up over them one shepherd, my servant David, and he shall feed them: he shall feed them and be their shepherd. ²⁴And I, the LORD, will be their God, and my servant David shall be prince among them. I am the LORD; I have spoken."

P This is the Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

Psalm

Psalm 95:1–7a; antiphon: v. 7a

¹Oh come, let us sing to the LORD;
let us make a joyful noise to the rock of our salvation!

**²Let us come into his presence with thanksgiving;
let us make a joyful noise to him with songs of praise!**

³For the LORD is a great God,
and a great King above all gods.

**⁴In his hand are the depths of the earth;
the heights of the mountains are his also.**

⁵The sea is his, for he made it,
and his hands formed the dry land.

**⁶Oh come, let us worship and bow down;
let us kneel before the LORD, our Maker!**

⁷For he is our God, and we are the people of his pasture,
and the sheep of his hand.

Epistle

1 Corinthians 15:20–28

(Christ is the first to rise from death; death will be destroyed.)

²⁰But in fact Christ has been raised from the dead, the firstfruits of those who have fallen asleep. ²¹For as by a man came death, by a man has come also the resurrection of the dead. ²²For as in Adam all die, so also in Christ shall all be made alive. ²³But each in his own order: Christ the firstfruits, then at his coming those who belong to Christ. ²⁴Then comes the end, when he delivers the kingdom to God the Father after destroying every rule and every authority and power. ²⁵For he must reign until he has put all his enemies under his feet. ²⁶The last enemy to be destroyed is death. ²⁷For “God has put all things in subjection under his feet.” But when it says, “all things are put in subjection,” it is plain that he is excepted who put all things in subjection under him. ²⁸When all things are subjected to him, then the Son himself will also be subjected to him who put all things in subjection under him, that God may be all in all.

P This is the Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

Alleluia and Verse

C Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.

C These things are written that you may believe that Jesus is the Christ, the Son of God.

C Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.

Holy Gospel

Matthew 25:31–46

(The Christian life involves loving the people around us.)

P The Holy Gospel according to St. Matthew, the twenty-fifth chapter.

C Glory to You, O Lord.

³¹[Jesus said:] “When the Son of Man comes in his glory, and all the angels with him, then he will sit on his glorious throne. ³²Before him will be gathered all the nations, and he will separate people one from another as a shepherd separates the sheep from the goats. ³³And he will place the sheep on his right, but the goats on the left. ³⁴Then the King will say to those on his right, ‘Come, you who are blessed by my Father, inherit the kingdom prepared for you from the foundation of the world. ³⁵For I was hungry and you gave me food, I was thirsty and you gave me drink, I was a stranger and you welcomed me, ³⁶I was naked and you clothed me, I was sick and you visited me, I was in prison and you came to me.’ ³⁷Then the righteous will answer him, saying, ‘Lord, when did we see you hungry and feed you, or thirsty and give you drink? ³⁸And when did we see you a stranger and welcome you, or naked and clothe you? ³⁹And when did we see you sick or in prison and visit you?’ ⁴⁰And the King will answer them, ‘Truly, I say to you, as you did it to one of the least of these my brothers, you did it to me.’ ⁴¹“Then he will say to those on his left, ‘Depart from me, you cursed, into the eternal fire prepared for the devil and his angels. ⁴²For I was hungry and you gave me no food, I was thirsty and you gave me no drink, ⁴³I was a stranger and you did not welcome me, naked and you did not clothe me, sick and in prison and you did not visit me.’ ⁴⁴Then they also will answer, saying, ‘Lord, when did we see

you hungry or thirsty or a stranger or naked or sick or in prison, and did not minister to you?' ⁴⁵Then he will answer them, saying, 'Truly, I say to you, as you did not do it to one of the least of these, you did not do it to me.' ⁴⁶And these will go away into eternal punishment, but the righteous into eternal life."

P This is the Gospel of the Lord.

C Praise to You, O Christ.

Nicene Creed

**C 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 Sermon

525 Crown Him with Many Crowns

1 Crown Him with many crowns,
The Lamb upon His throne;
Hark how the heav'nly anthem drowns
All music but its own.
Awake, my soul, and sing
Of Him who died for thee,
And hail Him as thy matchless king
Through all eternity.

- 2 Crown Him the virgin's Son,
The God incarnate born,
Whose arm those crimson trophies won
Which now His brow adorn:
Fruit of the mystic rose,
Yet of that rose the stem,
The root whence mercy ever flows,
The babe of Bethlehem.
- 3 Crown Him the Lord of love.
Behold His hands and side,
Rich wounds, yet visible above,
In beauty glorified.
No angels in the sky
Can fully bear that sight,
But downward bend their wond'ring eyes
At mysteries so bright.
- 4 Crown Him the Lord of life,
Who triumphed o'er the grave
And rose victorious in the strife
For those He came to save.
His glories now we sing,
Who died and rose on high,
Who died eternal life to bring
And lives that death may die.
- 5 Crown Him the Lord of heav'n,
Enthroned in worlds above,

Crown Him the king to whom is giv'n
The wondrous name of Love.
Crown Him with many crowns
As thrones before Him fall;
Crown Him, ye kings, with many crowns,

For He is king of all.

Text (sts. 1–3, 5): Matthew Bridges, 1800–94, alt.; (st. 4): Godfrey Thring, 1823–1903 Text: Public domain

Sermon

Prayer of the Church

P: In peace, let us pray to the Lord, Lord, have mercy.

For the people of God's pasture, gathered from all nations, that they may gladly feast upon His riches in the Means of Grace and declare His praises to all who will hear, let us pray to the Lord:

C: Lord, have mercy.

P: For God's pastors, that through their service in His Word, our Good Shepherd would be pleased continually to seek the lost, bring back the strayed, bind up the injured and strengthen the weak, let us pray to the Lord:

C: Lord, have mercy.

P: For those in civil authority, that God would sustain them in their governance until, on the Last Day, this world's powers pass away, let us pray to the Lord:

C: Lord, have mercy.

P: For all in need of help and healing, [*including _____*], that God would preserve them, deliver them from their transgressions and hold not His peace at their tears, let us pray to the Lord:

C: Lord, have mercy.

P: For those who commune this day, that the God of all grace would endow His people with penitent hearts to receive the risen Christ's body and blood, and with Him the hope of the resurrection from death to eternal life, let us pray to the Lord:

C: Lord, have mercy.

P: For the saints who have fallen asleep in Jesus, let us give thanks to the Lord; and that God would strengthen our conviction that death is defeated as we look for the resurrection of the dead and the life of the world to come, let us pray to the Lord:

C: Lord, have mercy.

P: Almighty God, You have prepared Your kingdom for us from the foundation of the world. Preserve us in faith and love throughout our days, that we may care for Your servants and our neighbors with compassion and joy, looking toward that day when the Son of Man comes in His glory; through the same Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C: Amen.

Offering

Service of the Sacrament

Preface

LSB 208

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, O Lord, holy Father, almighty and everlasting God, for the countless blessings You so freely bestow on us and all creation. Above all, we give thanks for Your boundless love shown to us when You sent Your only-begotten Son, Jesus Christ, into our flesh and laid on Him our sin, giving Him into death that we might not die eternally. Because He is now risen from the dead and lives and reigns to all eternity, all who believe in Him will overcome sin and death and will rise again to new 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 208

C Holy, holy, holy Lord God of Sabaoth adored;

**Heav'n and earth with full acclaim
shout the glory of Your name.
Sing hosanna in the highest, sing hosanna to the Lord;
Truly blest is He who comes in the name of the Lord!**

Lord's Prayer

**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 Institution

Pax Domini

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

C

**1 O Jesus Christ, true Lamb of God,
You take the sin of the world away;
O Jesus Christ, true Lamb of God,
Have mercy on us, Lord, we pray.**

**2 O Jesus Christ, true Lamb of God,
You take the sin of the world away;
Have mercy on us, Jesus Christ,
And grant us peace, O Lord, we pray.**

Distribution Hymns

637 Draw Near and Take the Body of the Lord

1 Draw near and take the body of the Lord,
And drink the holy blood for you outpoured;
Offered was He for greatest and for least,
Himself the victim and Himself the priest.

2 He who His saints in this world rules and shields,
To all believers life eternal yields;
With heav'nly bread He makes the hungry whole,
Gives living waters to the thirsting soul.

3 Come forward then with faithful hearts sincere,
And take the pledges of salvation here.
O Lord, our hearts with grateful thanks endow

As in this feast of love You bless us now.

Text: Latin, 7th cent.; tr. John Mason Neale, 1818–66, alt.

Text: Public domain

709 The King of Love My Shepherd Is

- 1 The King of love my shepherd is,
Whose goodness faileth never;
I nothing lack if I am His
And He is mine forever.

- 2 Where streams of living water flow,
My ransomed soul He leadeth
And, where the verdant pastures grow,
With food celestial feedeth.

- 3 Perverse and foolish oft I strayed,
But yet in love He sought me
And on His shoulder gently laid
And home rejoicing brought me.

- 4 In death's dark vale I fear no ill
With Thee, dear Lord, beside me,
Thy rod and staff my comfort still,
Thy cross before to guide me.

- 5 Thou spreadst a table in my sight;
Thine unction grace bestoweth;

And, oh, what transport of delight
From Thy pure chalice floweth!

6 And so through all the length of days
Thy goodness faileth never;
Good Shepherd, may I sing Thy praise
Within Thy house forever!

Text: Henry W. Baker, 1821–77 Text: Public domain

Nunc Dimittis

LSB 211

**C 1 O Lord, now let Your servant
Depart in heav'nly peace,
For I have seen the glory
Of Your redeeming grace:
A light to lead the Gentiles
Unto Your holy hill,
The glory of Your people,
Your chosen Israel.**

**2 All glory to the Father,
All glory to the Son,
All glory to the Spirit,
Forever Three in One;
For as in the beginning,
Is now, shall ever be,
God's triune name resounding
Through all eternity.**

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 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 Amen.

Benedicamus

LSB 212

P Let us bless the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

Benediction

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.

680 Thine the Amen, Thine the Praise

1 Thine the amen Thine the praise

Alleluias angels raise

Thine the everlasting head

Thine the breaking of the bread

Thine the glory Thine the story

Thine the harvest then the cup

Thine the vineyard then the cup is lifted up lifted up.

- 2 Thine the life eternally
Thine the promise let there be
Thine the vision Thine the tree
All the earth on bended knee
Gone the nailing gone the railing
Gone the pleading gone the cry
Gone the sighing gone the dying what was loss lifted high.

- 3 Thine the truly Thine the yes
Thine the table we the guest
Thine the mercy all from Thee
Thine the glory yet to be
Then the ringing and the singing
Then the end of all the war
Thine the living Thine the loving evermore evermore.

- 4 Thine the kingdom Thine the prize
Thine the wonder full surprise
Thine the banquet then the praise
Then the justice of Thy ways
Thine the glory Thine the story
Then the welcome to the least
Then the wonder all increasing at Thy feast at Thy feast.

- 5 Thine the glory in the night
No more dying only light
Thine the river Thine the tree
Then the Lamb eternally
Then the holy holy holy

Celebration jubilee
Thine the splendor Thine the brightness only Thee only
Thee.

Text: Herbert F. Brokering, 1926–2009

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Acknowledgments

Divine Service, Setting Four from Lutheran Service Book

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Attendance Last Week: 169

General giving last week: \$5825.37

Budget giving needed: \$7500.00

WOULD YOU LIKE TO BE A PEN PAL TO A ST. JOHN STUDENT?

If you are interested in having a pen pal from our school, please
contact Amy Brooks. We are trying to see if there is interest from our
members this school year. Her number is 920-789-9385 or her email
is amybrooksy1012@gmail.com

Calendar of Activities this week at St. John

28 Tuesday	Financial Planning Seminar	6:00 pm
30 Thursday	Worship Service/HC	6:30 pm
3 Sunday	Worship Service/HC	9:00 am
3 Sunday	Adult Bible Class	10:15 am
3 Sunday	Sunday School	10:15 am

HELP 3K/4K WITH PROJECT: 3K/4K is now collecting empty gallon milk jug/water jugs to construct an igloo in their classroom. Empty jugs can be dropped off at the school office or in the card room at church. The card room has a barrel for them. Thank you! Mrs. Henke and the 3k/4K children.

SWD LWML WINTER GETAWAY: *Please join us for the upcoming Winter Getaway at the beautiful Milwaukee Marriott West Hotel on February 2–3, 2024. Speaker and author Darcy Paape will lead us in an uplifting Mentoring Workshop, and we will be collecting care packages for female students and church workers. We hope to see you there! See the SWD website at lwml-swd.org and then click on 'Events' and 'Retreats' for details!*

Items Needed for our Gifts of Love Care Packages:

Comfy socks, facial items, lip gloss, chocolate kisses or hugs, small devotion booklets. Items must be able to fit in a quart size zip lock bag. These care packages will be going to female church workers at Concordia Wisconsin.

FOR THOSE OF YOU WHO ARE USING THE SCREENS EXCLUSIVELY and may not want or need a full bulletin...we have available in the back of church and from the ushers a "news" sheet which contains the same calendar, announcements and sermon outline found in the regular bulletin. If interested, please pick one up and see if it meets your needs.

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.

ELECTRONIC GIVING: Would you like your stewardship to be automated? St. John enables you to give your church offering by using electronic funds transfer (EFT). You may already be using EFT to have your mortgage, car payment and bills automatically paid using this method. Now your gift to God can be regular and "off the top," just like these other commitments.

There is no cost to you for this service. Just think – you won't have to write 52 checks a year! And you won't have to wonder where you put your church offering envelopes.

If you would like to participate, contact Amy Radliff by phone 920-361-1437 or by email at theradliffs@gmail.com for an enrollment form.

You can give weekly or monthly. Your giving is recorded at the church office and will reflect on your annual statement.