

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



Serving Us Today:
Pastor Robert Busse
Organist: Nancy Wallner
920-361-9935
www.stjohnberlin.org

The 24th Sunday after Pentecost
November 9 and 12, 2023

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... What do you do when you wait? What do others do? Whether sitting in the lobby of a doctor's office, or stuck behind a mile of cars in traffic, or counting down the days until an exciting event—what is done while waiting? Some seek distraction through technology to pass the time, others watch the time slowly pass, and still others wait impatiently, made known through verbal and nonverbal ways. How about when it comes to Jesus? What do we do while we wait for Him? Rather than seeking distractions to pass the time or feverishly looking at a clock while growing impatient, we are instead called to wait for Him in faith. We do not know the day nor the hour, but we wait in faith with more than oil in our lamps—faith in our hearts and on our lips until we meet the Bridegroom at the marriage feast.

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

515 Rejoice, Rejoice, Believers

- 1 Rejoice, rejoice, believers,
And let your lights appear;
The evening is advancing,
And darker night is near.
The Bridegroom is arising
And soon is drawing nigh.
Up, pray and watch and wrestle;
At midnight comes the cry.

- 2 The watchers on the mountain
Proclaim the Bridegroom near;
Go forth as He approaches
With alleluias clear.
The marriage feast is waiting;

The gates wide open stand.
Arise, O heirs of glory;
The Bridegroom is at hand.

3 The saints, who here in patience
Their cross and suff'rings bore,
Shall live and reign forever
When sorrow is no more.
Around the throne of glory
The Lamb they shall behold;
In triumph cast before Him
Their diadems of gold.

4 Our hope and expectation,
O Jesus, now appear;
Arise, O Sun so longed for,
O'er this benighted sphere.
With hearts and hands uplifted,
We plead, O Lord, to see
The day of earth's redemption
That sets Your people free!

Text: Laurentius Laurenti, 1660–1722; tr. Sarah B. Findlater,
1823–1907, 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 84:1, 9–12; antiphon: v. 3

Even the sparrow finds a home, and the swallow a nest for herself,
where she may lay her young at your altars, O LORD of hosts, my
King and my God.

How lovely is your dwelling place, O LORD of hosts!

Behold our shield, O God;
look on the face of your anointed!

**For a day in your courts is better than a thousand elsewhere.
I would rather be a doorkeeper in the house of my God than
dwell in the tents of wickedness.**

For the LORD God is a sun and shield; the LORD bestows favor and
honor.

No good thing does he withhold from those who walk uprightly.
**O LORD of hosts,
blessèd is the one who trusts in you!**

**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.**

Even the sparrow finds a home, and the swallow a nest for herself,
where she may lay her young,
at your altars, O LORD of hosts, my King and my God.

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.

Text: Stephen P. Starke

Salutation and Collect of the Day

P The Lord be with you.

C And also with you.

P Let us pray.

ALL: Lord God, heavenly Father, send forth Your Son to lead home His bride, the Church, that with all the company of the redeemed we may finally enter into His eternal wedding feast; through the same Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

Old Testament Reading

Amos 5:18–24

(The day of the Lord and justice)

¹⁸Woe to you who desire the day of the LORD!

Why would you have the day of the LORD?

It is darkness, and not light,

¹⁹as if a man fled from a lion,

and a bear met him,

or went into the house and leaned his hand against the wall,

and a serpent bit him.

²⁰Is not the day of the LORD darkness, and not light,

and gloom with no brightness in it?

²¹"I hate, I despise your feasts,

and I take no delight in your solemn assemblies.

²²Even though you offer me your burnt offerings and grain offerings,

I will not accept them;

and the peace offerings of your fattened animals,

I will not look upon them.

²³Take away from me the noise of your songs;

to the melody of your harps I will not listen.

²⁴But let justice roll down like waters,

and righteousness like an ever-flowing stream."

P This is the Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

Psalm

Psalm 70; antiphon: v. 4

¹Make haste, O God, to deliver me!

O LORD, make haste to help me!

2 Let them be put to shame and confusion

who seek my life!

Let them be turned back and brought to dishonor

who desire my hurt!

³Let them turn back because of their shame

who say, "Aha, Aha!"

4May all who seek you

rejoice and be glad in you!

May those who love your salvation

say evermore, "God is great!"

⁵But I am poor and needy; hasten to me, O God!
You are my help and my deliverer;
O LORD, do not delay!

Epistle *(The coming of the Lord)* *1 Thessalonians 4:13–18*

¹³But we do not want you to be uninformed, brothers, about those who are asleep, that you may not grieve as others do who have no hope. ¹⁴For since we believe that Jesus died and rose again, even so, through Jesus, God will bring with him those who have fallen asleep. ¹⁵For this we declare to you by a word from the Lord, that we who are alive, who are left until the coming of the Lord, will not precede those who have fallen asleep. ¹⁶For the Lord himself will descend from heaven with a cry of command, with the voice of an archangel, and with the sound of the trumpet of God. And the dead in Christ will rise first. ¹⁷Then we who are alive, who are left, will be caught up together with them in the clouds to meet the Lord in the air, and so we will always be with the Lord. ¹⁸Therefore encourage one another with these words.

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 *(The parable of the ten virgins)* *Matthew 25:1–13*

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

C Glory to You, O Lord.

¹[Jesus said:] “The kingdom of heaven will be like ten virgins who took their lamps and went to meet the bridegroom. ²Five of them were foolish, and five were wise. ³For when the foolish took their lamps, they took no oil with them, ⁴but the wise took flasks of oil with their lamps. ⁵As the bridegroom was delayed, they all became drowsy and slept. ⁶But at midnight there was a cry, ‘Here is the bridegroom! Come out to meet him.’ ⁷Then all those virgins rose and trimmed their lamps. ⁸And the foolish said to the wise, ‘Give us some of your oil, for our lamps are going out.’ ⁹But the wise answered, saying, ‘Since there will not be enough for us and for you, go rather to the dealers and buy for yourselves.’ ¹⁰And while they were going to buy, the bridegroom came, and those who were ready went in with him to the marriage feast, and the door was shut. ¹¹Afterward the other virgins came also, saying, ‘Lord, lord, open to us.’ ¹²But he answered, ‘Truly, I say to you, I do not know you.’ ¹³Watch therefore, for you know neither the day nor the hour.”

P This is the Gospel of the Lord.

C Praise to You, O Christ.

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.**

Children's Sermon

514 The Bridegroom Soon Will Call Us

1 The Bridegroom soon will call us,
"Come to the wedding feast."
May slumber not befall us
Nor watchfulness decrease.
May all our lamps be burning
With oil enough and more
That we, with Him returning,
May find an open door!

2 There shall we see in glory
Our dear Redeemer's face;
The long-awaited story
Of heav'nly joy takes place:
The patriarchs shall meet us,
The prophets' holy band;
Apostles, martyrs greet us
In that celestial land.

3 There God shall from all evil
Forever make us free,
From sin and from the devil,
From all adversity,
From sickness, pain, and sadness,
From troubles, cares, and fears,
And grant us heav'nly gladness
And wipe away our tears.

4 In that fair home shall never
Be silent music's voice;
With hearts and lips forever
We shall in God rejoice,
While angel hosts are raising
With saints from great to least
A mighty hymn for praising
The Giver of the feast.

Text: Johann Walter, 1496–1570; (st. 1): tr. F. Samuel Janzow, 1913–2001; (sts. 2–4): tr. Matthias Loy, 1828–1915, alt.

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Text (sts. 2–4): Public domain

Sermon

Prayer of the Church

P Lord Jesus Christ, through You all things were made. You have entrusted us with the care of all creation. Embolden us to be good and faithful stewards of all that You have made until You return to dwell with us again. For until Your return, we pray,

C come quickly, Lord Jesus.

P Lord Jesus, in Your incarnation and birth You deigned to dwell among us, even as an infant. Bring comfort to all those who are living through the challenges of infertility and miscarriage. Bring them Your healing, and give them wisdom as they seek to do Your will. For until Your return, we pray,

C come quickly, Lord Jesus.

P Lord Jesus, in Your earthly life You suffered much at the hands of lawless men. Be with all those who suffer now through abuse, illness, or injustice, [*especially . . .*]. Heal them according to Your will. For until Your return, we pray,

C come quickly, Lord Jesus.

P Lord Jesus, by Your death and resurrection, You destroyed death forever. While we look forward to the resurrection, each human being still faces earthly death. We bring before You all those who are mourning the death of loved ones, [*especially . . .*]. Comfort

them with Your presence and the hope of the resurrection to eternal life. For until Your return, we pray,

C come quickly, Lord Jesus.

P Lord Jesus, be present in Your Church. Give us faithful pastors, teachers, musicians, administrators, and other church workers, that we walk together with You, bringing Your Gospel to all nations. For until Your return, we pray,

C come quickly, Lord Jesus.

P Into Your hands, O Lord, we commend all for whom we pray, trusting in Your mercy; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord.

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.

Agnus Dei

LSB 210

**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

618 I Come, O Savior, to Thy Table

1 I come, O Savior, to Thy table,
For weak and weary is my soul;
Thou, Bread of Life, alone art able
To satisfy and make me whole: Refrain
**ref Lord, may Thy body and Thy blood
Be for my soul the highest good!**

- 2 Thy heart is filled with fervent yearning
That sinners may salvation see
Who, Lord, to Thee in faith are turning;
So I, a sinner, come to Thee. **Refrain**
- 3 Unworthy though I am, O Savior,
Because I have a sinful heart,
Yet Thou Thy lamb wilt banish never,
For Thou my faithful shepherd art: **Refrain**
- 4 Weary am I and heavy laden;
With sin my soul is sore oppressed;
Receive me graciously and gladden
My heart, for I am now Thy guest. **Refrain**
- 5 What higher gift can we inherit?
It is faith's bond and solid base;
It is the strength of heart and spirit,
The covenant of hope and grace. **Refrain**

Text: Friedrich Christian Heyder, 1677–1754; tr. The Lutheran Hymnal, 1941, abr. Text: © 1941 Concordia Publishing House. Used by permission: LSB Hymn License no. 110005513

643 Sent Forth by God's Blessing

- 1 Sent forth by God's blessing,
Our true faith confessing,
The people of God from His dwelling take leave.
The Supper is ended.

O now be extended
The fruits of this service in all who believe.
The seed of His teaching,
Receptive souls reaching,
Shall blossom in action for God and for all.
His grace did invite us,
His love shall unite us
To work for God's kingdom and answer His call.

2 With praise and thanksgiving
To God ever-living,
The tasks of our ev'ryday life we will face.
Our faith ever sharing,
In love ever caring,
Embracing His children of each tribe and race.
With Your feast You feed us,
With Your light now lead us;
Unite us as one in this life that we share.
Then may all the living
With praise and thanksgiving
Give honor to Christ and His name that we bear.

Text: Omer E. Westendorf, 1916–97, alt. Text: © 1964 World
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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.

673 Jerusalem, My Happy Home

- 1 Jerusalem, my happy home,
When shall I come to thee?
When shall my sorrows have an end?
Thy joys when shall I see?

- 2 O happy harbor of the saints,
O sweet and pleasant soil!
In thee no sorrow may be found,
No grief, no care, no toil.

- 3 Thy gardens and thy gallant walks
Continually are green;
There grow such sweet and pleasant flow'rs
As nowhere else are seen.

- 4 There trees forevermore bear fruit
And evermore do spring;
There evermore the angels dwell
And evermore do sing.

- 5 Apostles, martyrs, prophets, there
Around my Savior stand;

And soon my friends in Christ below
Will join the glorious band.

6 O Christ, do Thou my soul prepare
For that bright home of love
That I may see Thee and adore
With all Thy saints above.

Text: F. B. P., 16th cent., alt. Text: Public domain

Acknowledgments

Divine Service, Setting Four from Lutheran Service Book

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Attendance Last Week: 175

General giving last week: \$10,910.25

Budget giving needed: \$ 7,500.00

FOOD DRIVE: St. John Lutheran Church and School will be holding a non-perishable food drive from 11-6-23 until 11-15-23. Food collected will go to the Berlin Food Pantry. Please bring your food items to church or school and put in the labeled bins.

ALL FOOD MUST BE HERE BY SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 15TH!!

Calendar of Activities this week at St. John

13 Monday	Board of Trustees	6:30 pm
14 Tuesday	Board of Education	6:00 pm
15 Wednesday	Senior Choir Practice	7:00 pm
16 Thursday	Worship Service/HC	6:30 pm
19 Sunday	Worship Service/HC	9:00 am
19 Sunday	Adult Bible Class	10:15 am
19 Sunday	Sunday School	10:15 am

IN DEEPEST SYMPATHY: Ray Clark, husband of Vickie Clark, died unexpectedly on Monday, October 30th. His funeral is/was on Saturday, November 11th at St. John. We pray God's blessing on the family at this trying time.

SCHOOL FRUIT SALE: The annual fruit sale has begun.....an order form is in the card room until November 26. The delivery date is December 19. Take advantage of this great fruit AND the prices are lower than last year! Questions?...call Nancy Wallner @ 361-4179.

FLOWER REMINDER: If you would like to donate or have flowers on the altar at any time for special occasions such as birthday, anniversary, in honor of or memory of for example, feel free to **sign up on the Flower Chart in the card room**. Flowers can be delivered by the local florist or brought in by you and put in the Altar Guild

refrigerator. The flowers will be placed on the alter for the worship services."

FREE "PLANNING FOR THE FUTURE" SEMINAR: Amy Vetrone, CERTIFIED FINANCIAL PLANNER™, will be hosting a complimentary seminar, *Planning for the Future – An Approach for Your Whole Family*, on Tuesday, November 28th at 6:00PM in the church basement. All members and family are welcome to attend. During this session, she will help you consider what leaving a legacy means, tools to start family conversations, and why it is important. Financial confidence increases when conversations around money take place with those you care about the most. To register for this event, contact Amy at 920-379-0435 or email her at [**amy.vetrone@ampf.com**](mailto:amy.vetrone@ampf.com). Light refreshments will be provided.

THE CARD ROOM: The LWML would like to share with new members and remind current members that there are cards for sale in the "Card Room" which is the room where cookies are set up on Sunday mornings. Cards are all \$0.50 each. There are also various craft items for sale. If you make a purchase there is a box in the top file drawer for you to deposit your payment in. The Card Room also has mite boxes available if you would like to take one home to collect your mites. There is also a bulletin board with information about missionaries and seminarians we support as a congregation. If you have any questions please contact an LWML member: Carol Krause, Karen Vergin Krause, Kelli Mundinger, Deb Schrader, Dawn Schroeder, Cindy Schuett, Leitha Kraus, Bonnie Sperberg, or June Richter.