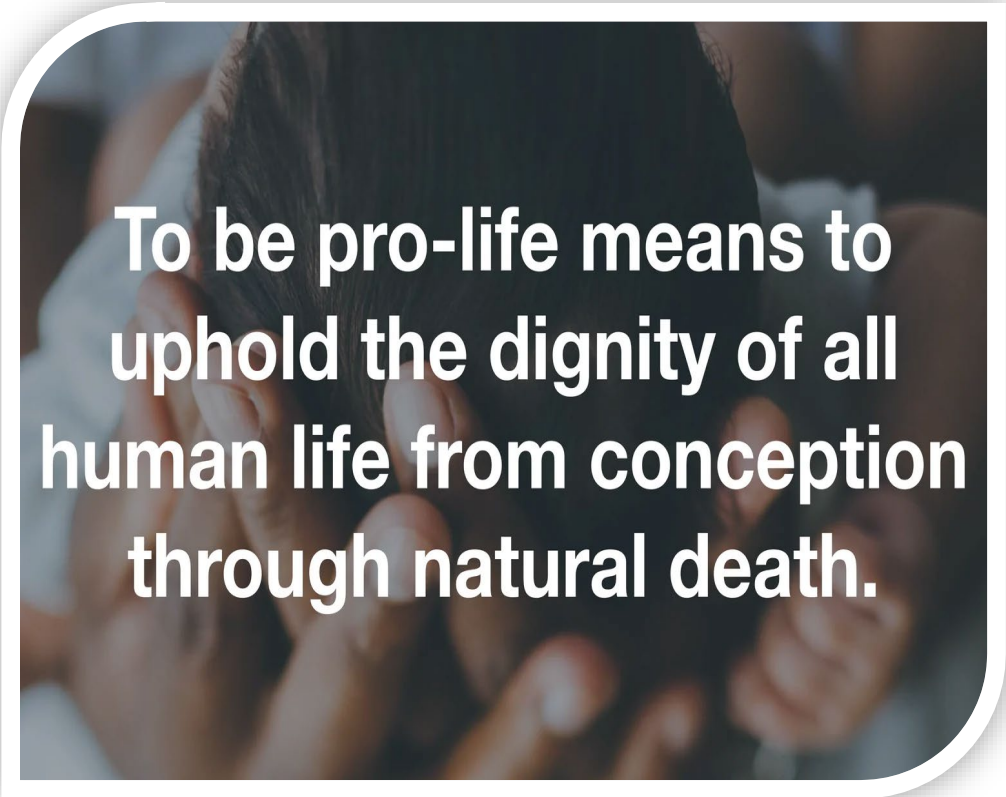


***St. John Lutheran Church & School
Berlin, Wisconsin
The Lutheran Church – Missouri Synod***



**To be pro-life means to
uphold the dignity of all
human life from conception
through natural death.**

***The Sixth Sunday After the Epiphany
February 13 and 16, 2025***

**Serving Us Today:
Pastor Rob Schrader
Organist: Nancy Wallner
920-361-9935
www.stjohnberlin.org**

Large Print Bulletin

AS WE GATHER... Blessings abound to us today! Jeremiah laments the one who “trusts in man,” but sees the one who “trusts in the Lord,” to be like a tree planted with abundant water that “does not cease to bear fruit” (Jeremiah 17:5, 7, 8). Note that we are “planted,”— a passive verb, grace! Luke records another time Jesus preached using beatitudes. He concluded that we, his hearers, should rejoice and leap for joy, for our reward is great in heaven. Such grace! No wonder that Paul warns against those who doubt Christ’s resurrection. Our Lord is only “the firstfruits of those who have fallen asleep” (1 Corinthians 15:20). Today our worship is full of rejoicing in the grace of God. It also gives us strength to produce fruit every 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

The Welcome

Confession and Absolution

Hymn of Invocation

**1 This is the day the Lord has made;
He calls the hours His own.**

**Let heav'n rejoice, let earth be glad
And praise surround the throne.**

**2 Today He rose and left the dead,
And Satan's empire fell;
Today the saints His triumphs spread
And all His wonders tell.**

**3 Hosanna to the anointed King,
To David's holy Son!
Help us, O Lord; descend and bring
Salvation from Your throne.**

**4 Blessèd is He who comes to us
With messages of grace;
He, in the Lord's name, comes to us
To save our fallen race.**

**5 Hosanna in the highest strains
The Church on earth can raise.
The highest heav'ns, in which He reigns,
Shall give Him nobler praise.**

Text: Isaac Watts, 1674–1748, 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 119:1–2, 4–5; antiphon: v. 7

I will praise you with an upright heart,
when I learn your just and righteous decrees.

**Blessèd are those whose way is blameless,
who walk in the law of the LORD!**

Blessèd are those who keep his testimonies,
who seek him with their whole heart.

**You have commanded your precepts to be kept diligently.
Oh that my ways may be steadfast
in keeping your statutes!**

**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.**

I will praise you with an upright heart,
when I learn your just and righteous decrees.

Kyrie *LSB 204*

**C Lord, have mercy;
Christ, have mercy;
Lord, have mercy.**

Gloria in Excelsis *LSB 204*

**C 1 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.**

**2 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—**

**3 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.

O Lord, graciously hear the prayers of Your people that we who justly suffer the consequence of our sin may be mercifully delivered by Your goodness to the glory of Your name; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

CAmen.

Old Testament Reading

Psalm 8:1–6

¹O LORD, our Lord,

how majestic is your name in all the earth!

You have set your glory above the heavens.

²Out of the mouth of babes and infants,

you have established strength because of your foes,
to still the enemy and the avenger.

³When I look at your heavens, the work of your fingers,
the moon and the stars, which you have set in place,

⁴what is man that you are mindful of him,
and the son of man that you care for him?

⁵Yet you have made him a little lower than the heavenly beings
and crowned him with glory and honor.

⁶You have given him dominion over the works of your hands;
you have put all things under his feet,

P This is the Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

Epistle

Romans 5:6–11

⁶For while we were still weak, at the right time Christ died for the ungodly. ⁷For one will scarcely die for a righteous person—though perhaps for a good person one would dare even to die— ⁸but God shows his love for us in that while we were still sinners, Christ died for us. ⁹Since, therefore, we have now been justified by his blood, much more shall we be saved by him from the wrath of God. ¹⁰For if while we were enemies we were reconciled to God by the death of his Son, much more, now that we are reconciled, shall we be saved by his life. ¹¹More than that, we also rejoice in God through our Lord Jesus Christ, through whom we have now received reconciliation.

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 2:16–18

P The Holy Gospel according to St. Matthew, the second chapter.

C Glory to You, O Lord.

¹⁶Then Herod, when he saw that he had been tricked by the wise men, became furious, and he sent and killed all the male children in Bethlehem and in all that region who were two years old or under, according to the time that he had ascertained from the wise men. ¹⁷Then was fulfilled what was spoken by the prophet Jeremiah:

¹⁸"A voice was heard in Ramah,
weeping and loud lamentation,
Rachel weeping for her children;
she refused to be comforted, because they are no more."

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

725 Children of the Heavenly Father

- 1 Children of the heav'nly Father
Safely in His bosom gather;
Nestling bird nor star in heaven
Such a refuge e'er was given.**

- 2 God His own doth tend and nourish;
In His holy courts they flourish.
From all evil things He spares them;
In His mighty arms He bears them.**

- 3 Neither life nor death shall ever
From the Lord His children sever;
Unto them His grace He showeth,
And their sorrows all He knoweth.**

- 4 Though He giveth or He taketh,
God His children ne'er forsaketh;**

**His the loving purpose solely
To preserve them pure and holy.**

Sermon

Prayer of the Church

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 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!**

Text: Stephen P. Starke

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 Our Lord

P Our Lord Jesus Christ, on the night when He was betrayed, took bread, and when He had given thanks, He broke it and gave it to the disciples and said: "Take, eat; this is My + body, which is given for you. This do in remembrance of Me."

In the same way also He took the cup after supper, and when He had given thanks, He gave it to them, saying: "Drink of it, all of you;

this cup is the new testament in My + blood, which is shed for you for the forgiveness of sins. This do, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of Me."

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.**

Text: Stephen P. Starke

Distribution Hymns

761 Rock of Ages, Cleft for Me

**1 Rock of Ages, cleft for me,
Let me hide myself in Thee;
Let the water and the blood,
From Thy riven side which flowed,**

**Be of sin the double cure:
Cleanse me from its guilt and pow'r.**

**2 Not the labors of my hands
Can fulfill Thy Law's demands;
Could my zeal no respite know,
Could my tears forever flow,
All for sin could not atone;
Thou must save, and Thou alone.**

**3 Nothing in my hand I bring;
Simply to Thy cross I cling.
Naked, come to Thee for dress;
Helpless, look to Thee for grace;
Foul, I to the fountain fly;
Wash me, Savior, or I die.**

**4 While I draw this fleeting breath,
When mine eyelids close in death,
When I soar to worlds unknown,
See Thee on Thy judgment throne,
Rock of Ages, cleft for me,
Let me hide myself in Thee.**

Text: Augustus M. Toplady, 1740–78 Text: Public domain

560 Drawn to the Cross, Which Thou Hast Blessed

**1 Drawn to the cross, which Thou hast blessed
With healing gifts for souls distressed,
To find in Thee my life, my rest,
Christ crucified, I come.**

**2 Thou knowest all my griefs and fears,
Thy grace abused, my misspent years;
Yet now to Thee with contrite tears,
Christ crucified, I come.**

**3 Wash me and take away each stain;
Let nothing of my sin remain.
For cleansing, though it be through pain,
Christ crucified, I come.**

**4 And then for work to do for Thee,
Which shall so sweet a service be
That angels well might envy me,
Christ crucified, I come.**

Text: Genevieve M. Irons, 1855–1928 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.

922 Go, My Children, with My Blessing *sts. 1–4*

**1 Go, My children, with My blessing,
 Never alone.**

**Waking, sleeping, I am with you;
 You are My own.**

**In My love's baptismal river
 I have made you Mine forever.**

**Go, My children, with My blessing—
 You are My own.**

**2 Go, My children, sins forgiven,
 At peace and pure.**

**Here you learned how much I love you,
 What I can cure.**

**Here you heard My dear Son's story;
 Here you touched Him, saw His glory.**

**Go, My children, sins forgiven,
 At peace and pure.**

**3 Go, My children, fed and nourished,
 Closer to Me;**

**Grow in love and love by serving,
 Joyful and free.**

**Here My Spirit's power filled you;
 Here His tender comfort stilled you.**

**Go, My children, fed and nourished,
Joyful and free.**

**4 I the Lord will bless and keep you
And give you peace;
I the Lord will smile upon you
And give you peace:
I the Lord will be your Father,
Savior, Comforter, and Brother.
Go, My children; I will keep you
And give you peace.**

Text: Jaroslav J. Vajda, 1919–2008 Text: © 1983 Concordia
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Acknowledgments

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Attendance Last Week: 174

General giving last week: \$7165.85

Budget giving needed: \$7500.00

Calendar of Activities this week at St. John

18 Tuesday	Altar Guild Meeting	6:30 pm
19 Wednesday	Senior Choir	6:30 pm
20 Thursday	St. John School Open House	4-7 pm
20 Thursday	Worship Service/HC	6:30 pm
21 Friday	No School	
23 Sunday	Worship Service/HC	9:00 am
23 Sunday	Sunday School	10:15 am
23 Sunday	Adult Bible Class	10:15 am

PASTOR ROB'S NUMBER: If you or a loved one are hospitalized or going through something difficult and need to speak with a pastor, please call or text Pastor Rob at any time at (920) 539-4603. He would be happy to speak with you and set up a time to visit.

ASLEEP IN JESUS: Arnold Paul Dittman fell asleep in the arms of his Savior on Friday, February 7th and received Christian burial from St. John on Saturday, February 15th. May the Lord comfort those who remain with His words: "BECAUSE I LIVE, YE SHALL LIVE ALSO."

ASLEEP IN JESUS: It has pleased Almighty God to call from this veil of tears to Himself the soul of His servant Luanne L. Johnson. Luanne entered eternal life with her Lord and Savior on Wednesday, February 5th and will received Christian burial from St. John on Saturday, March 8th.

FLOWERS ON THE ALTAR Thursday and Sunday, February 13 and 16 have been placed in memory of Nicole Marie Schumacher's birthday by Bonnie & Mark Schumacher.

FLOWERS ON THE FLOWER STANDS are in loving memory of Wendy Pongratz, granddaughter of Gladys Hall. The flowers have been given by Gladys and the family and friends of Wendy.

FREE TABLES: There are a few 4'x8' wood tables with metal legs in the church basement that we need to get rid of to create some room. If you would be interested in a table or two, please talk to Keith Krause.

OPEN HOUSE: St. John Lutheran School will have an Open House on Thursday, Feb. 20th from 4pm to 7pm, anyone is welcome to stop by to check out our school, meet our teachers and ask questions. The school participates in the Wisconsin Private School Choice Program and if you qualify, you may be able to send your child(ren) to our school tuition free.

ALTAR GUILD MEETING: The Altar Guild will meet on Tuesday, February 18th at 6:30 at the church.



PTL HANGING BASKET SALE: The annual PTL Hanging Basket Sale is **going on NOW thru MARCH 2nd**. The order form is in the card room.

CONNECTION GROUP LEADERS NEEDED! Connection Groups connect Christians to other Christians, Christians closer to Christ, and non-Christians to Connection Groups. With God's help, they are going to be an important part of our church and will impact your life, our church, and our community. But, in order to have this important ministry, we need Connection Group leaders. Please pray about this opportunity and consider if God has given you the skills to be a Christian leader. If you have questions, please talk with Pastor Rob. If you would like to sign up, there is a sheet in the back of church. Thank you!

MINISTRIES AT ST. JOHN BOOKLET: Our Savior, Jesus, came to serve us by dying on the cross. Inspired by what he has done, the Bible encourages us to likewise serve our neighbors. If you're looking for a way to follow God's command, pick up our NEW "Getting Involved" ministry booklet in the rack in the back of church to see the different ways that you can serve in and through our church and school! Thank you!

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.

YOUTH GROUP: The next youth group event will be in February. We will have an outdoor activity on the 22nd. It will depend on how much snow we have. Either sledding at Zobel Hill or snow tubing Nordic Mountain. We would plan again for around 1:00 pm and go for 2 hours. If we buy tickets online ahead of time, they will be \$20.00. At the hill, they are \$35.00.

If you have a suggestion of something for future activities, please let me know. I am available via email tpett@stjohnberlin.org or 262-470-2152.

ATTENTION CONGREGATION MEMBERS: The Board of Christian Education is looking for someone to teach the Preschool/Kindergarten Sunday School class for the remainder of the school year. Sunday School runs from 10:30-11:30 am on Sunday mornings. The teaching/student materials are provided and there are some experienced helpers ready to help in that classroom. Please contact the school office, Miss Linse or any Board of Education member if you are interested in helping out.

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED! SECOND TIME-AROUND SHOP: Over the last 40 years the Second Time-Around Shop in Berlin has supported Lutheran Counseling and Family Services of WI (LCFS) with nearly \$3 million of their profits so that people in our community and around our state can receive life-changing Christian counseling and adoption services. Our thrift store has played a major role in bringing Christ

and his love to numerous people! To provide so much money to LCFS, the Second Time-Around Shop relies on volunteers to run and organize their store, and they could use your help! A few hours of your time each week would be hugely beneficial for the store and for the ministry of LCFS. There are various duties available for people of all skills and ages. To ask about volunteering, call the store at: (920) 361-0334.

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 monthly calendar, and other resources. You can also visit the St. John School web pages from a tab in the church section.

Sermon Notes – 2-16-24 – Pro-Life

-God greatly values human _____.

-“Do you not know that you are God's temple and that God's Spirit dwells in you? If anyone destroys God's temple, God will destroy him. For God's temple is holy, and you are that temple.”
(1 Corinthians 3:16-17)

-“God shows his _____ for us in that while we were still sinners, Christ died for us.” (Romans 5:8)

-Frankly, when we consider the cross, it is impossible to overstate the value which God assigns to each human being.

-Human life is also very fragile. And, like Herod, we are prone to take _____ of its frailty for our own benefit.

-According to the God's Word, a life in the womb is still a life.

-Abortion is murder; it is taking a life. Life is incalculably valuable to God, therefore, abortion is wrong.

-We need to remember that every one of those aborted lives are human lives that Jesus loves so much that he _____ for them.

-And we, as Christians, as those who are called to love life like God loves life because he has loved our lives enough to give his life for us should do something about it.

-Support Pro-Life Organizations. Support families of children who weren't aborted. _____ children who weren't aborted.

-Pro-Life does not mean "anti-abortion", instead it means that we, like God, are to be dedicated advocates for _____.

-We have all failed miserably to be truly Pro-Life, and that is a great sin.

-Being Pro-Life means being loving and gracious towards those who have an abortion because Jesus loves them and is gracious towards them.

-Being Pro-Life means valuing all human life and loving all human life.

-Because Jesus is so Pro-Life that he died for you, if you have faith in him and are repentant for your sins, then your failures to be completely Pro-Life are _____.

-Having once again experienced Jesus great love for our lives, let us go from here following him – let us love the lives of others.