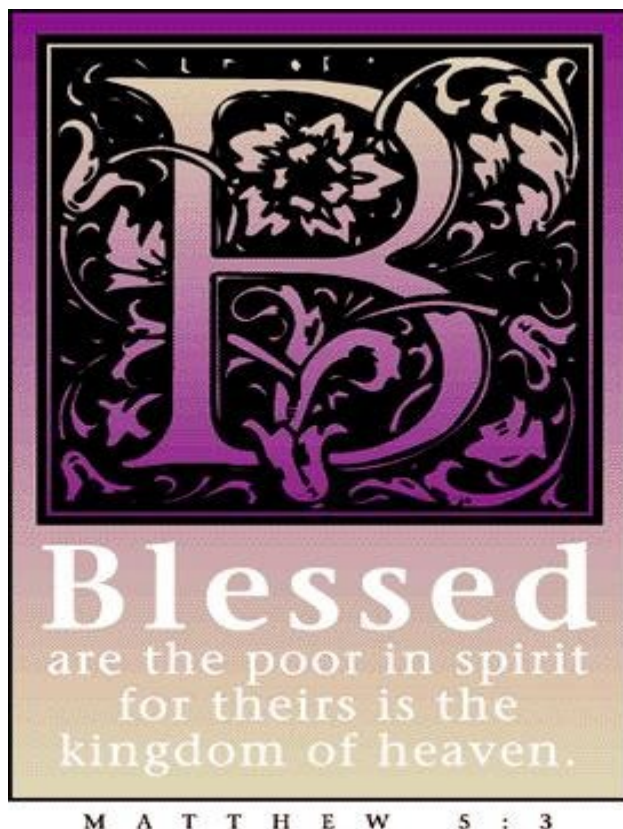


***St. John Lutheran Church & School
Berlin, Wisconsin
The Lutheran Church – Missouri Synod***



***August 14 and 17, 2025
The 10th Sunday after Pentecost***

**Serving Us Today:
Pastors Schrader and Busse
Organist: Amanda Tetzlaff
920-361-9935
www.stjohnberlin.org**

Large Print Bulletin

As We Gather... The verbal command "Hold on!" is one that gets our immediate attention. We know instinctively that holding on will keep us safe or secure in some way as we journey through life. The pages of Scripture call us to "hold on" to some very special things. In the letter to the Hebrews, the writer enjoins us: "Let us hold fast the confession of our hope without wavering" (Hebrews 10:23). Paul directs his coworker, Timothy, (and all of us) to "Take hold of the eternal life to which you were called" (1 Timothy 6:12) and encourages him to be "holding faith and a good conscience" (1 Timothy 1:19). Our worship together gives us the opportunity to hold on not only to our Lord Jesus Christ but also to one another as we journey on together toward our heavenly home.

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.

Confession and Absolution

782 Gracious God, You Send Great Blessings

- 1 Gracious God, You send great blessings
New each morning all our days.
For Your mercies never ending,
For Your love we offer praise. **Refrain**

**Refrain Lord, we pray that we, Your people
Who Your gifts unnumbered claim,
Through the sharing of Your blessings
May bring glory to Your name.**

2 By Your Word You formed creation
Filled with creatures large and small;
As we tend that endless treasure
May our care encircle all. **Refrain**

3 In His earthly life, our Savior
Knew the care of faithful friends;
May our deeds of dedication
Offer love that never ends. **Refrain**

△ 4 Heav'nly Father, may our caring
Bear the imprint of Your grace;
With the Son and Holy Spirit,
Praise be Yours in ev'ry place! **Refrain**

Text: Gregory J. Wismar, 1946 Text: © 2004 Gregory J. Wismar.
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Stand

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

P Our help is in the name of the Lord,

C who made heaven and earth.

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

C and You forgave the iniquity of my sin.

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

P O almighty God, merciful Father,

C I, a poor, miserable sinner, confess unto You all my sins and iniquities with which I have ever offended You and justly deserved Your temporal and eternal punishment. But I am heartily sorry for them and sincerely repent of them, and I pray You of Your boundless mercy and for the sake of the holy, innocent, bitter sufferings and death of Your beloved Son, Jesus Christ, to be gracious and merciful to me, a poor, sinful being.

P Upon this your confession, I, by virtue of my office, as a called and ordained servant of the Word, announce the grace of God unto all of you, and in the stead and by the command of my

Lord Jesus Christ I forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the + Son and of the Holy Spirit.

C Amen.

Stand

Service of the Word

Introit

Psalm 55:1, 12–14, 16; antiphon: v. 22

Cast your burden on the LORD, and he will sustain you;
he will never permit the righteous to be moved.

**Give ear to my prayer, O God,
and hide not yourself from my plea for mercy!**

For it is not an enemy who taunts me—then I could bear it;
it is not an adversary who deals insolently with me—then I
could hide from him.

**But it is you, a man, my equal,
my companion, my familiar friend.**

We used to take sweet counsel together;
within God's house we walked in the throng.

**But I call to God,
and the LORD will save me.**

Cast your burden on the LORD, and he will sustain you;
he will never permit the righteous to be moved.

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

Kyrie

LSB 186

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

Salutation and Collect of the Day

P The Lord be with you.

C And with thy spirit.

P Let us pray.

Merciful Lord, cleanse and defend Your Church by the sacrifice of Christ. United with Him in Holy Baptism, give us grace to receive with thanksgiving the fruits of His redeeming work and daily follow in His way; through the same Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C Amen.

Sit

Old Testament Reading

Psalms 51:7–17

⁷Purge me with hyssop, and I shall be clean;
wash me, and I shall be whiter than snow.

⁸Let me hear joy and gladness;

let the bones that you have broken rejoice.
⁹Hide your face from my sins,
and blot out all my iniquities.
¹⁰Create in me a clean heart, O God,
and renew a right spirit within me.
¹¹Cast me not away from your presence,
and take not your Holy Spirit from me.
¹²Restore to me the joy of your salvation,
and uphold me with a willing spirit.
¹³Then I will teach transgressors your ways,
and sinners will return to you.
¹⁴Deliver me from bloodguiltiness, O God,
O God of my salvation,
and my tongue will sing aloud of your righteousness.
¹⁵O Lord, open my lips,
and my mouth will declare your praise.
¹⁶For you will not delight in sacrifice, or I would give it;
you will not be pleased with a burnt offering.
¹⁷The sacrifices of God are a broken spirit;
a broken and contrite heart, O God, you will not despise.

P This is the Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

Epistle

James 4:6–10

⁶But he gives more grace. Therefore it says, "God opposes the proud, but gives grace to the humble." ⁷Submit yourselves therefore to God. Resist the devil, and he will flee from you.

⁸Draw near to God, and he will draw near to you. Cleanse your

hands, you sinners, and purify your hearts, you double-minded.
⁹Be wretched and mourn and weep. Let your laughter be turned to mourning and your joy to gloom. ¹⁰Humble yourselves before the Lord, and he will exalt you.

P This is the Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

Stand

Alleluia

LSB 190

C Alleluia. Alleluia. Alleluia.

Holy Gospel

Matthew 5:3, 5

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

C Glory be to Thee, O Lord.

³"Blessed are the poor in spirit, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.

⁵"Blessed are the meek, for they shall inherit the earth.

P This is the Gospel of the Lord.

C Praise be to Thee, 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

848 Lord, Whose Love through Humble Service

- 1 Lord, whose love through humble service
Bore the weight of human need,
Who upon the cross, forsaken,
Offered mercy's perfect deed,
We, Your servants, bring the worship
Not of voice alone, but heart,
Consecrating to Your purpose
Ev'ry gift that You impart.

- 2 Still Your children wander homeless;
Still the hungry cry for bread;
Still the captives long for freedom;
Still in grief we mourn our dead.
As, O Lord, Your deep compassion
Healed the sick and freed the soul,
Use the love Your Spirit kindles
Still to save and make us whole.
- 3 As we worship, grant us vision,
Till Your love's revealing light
In its height and depth and greatness,
Dawns upon our quickened sight,
Making known the needs and burdens
Your compassion bids us bear,
Stirring us to tireless striving,
Your abundant life to share.
- 4 Called by worship to Your service,
Forth in Your dear name we go,
To the child, the youth, the aged,
Love in living deeds to show;
Hope and health, goodwill and comfort,
Counsel, aid, and peace we give,
That Your servants, Lord, in freedom
May Your mercy know and live.

Text: Albert F. Bayly, 1901–84, alt. Text: © Oxford University Press. Used by permission: LSB Hymn License no. 110005513

Sermon

“Poor in Spirit”

Sit

Offering

Stand

Prayer of the Church

Service of the Sacrament

Preface

LSB 194

P The Lord be with you.

C And with thy spirit.

P Lift up your hearts.

C We lift them up unto the Lord.

P Let us give thanks unto the Lord, our God.

C It is meet and right so to do.

P "Therefore with angels and archangels and with all the company of heaven, let us now and evermore praise God's glorious name, singing:

Sanctus

LSB 195

**C Holy, holy, holy Lord God of Sabaoth;
heav'n and earth are full of Thy glory.**

**Hosanna, hosanna, hosanna in the highest.
Blessed is He, blessed is He,
blessed is He that cometh in the name of the Lord.
Hosanna, hosanna, hosanna in the highest.**

Lord's Prayer

LSB 196

**ALL 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 197

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

LSB 197

P The peace of the Lord be with you always.

C Amen.

Agnus Dei

LSB 198

C O Christ, Thou Lamb of God, that takest away the sin of the world, have mercy upon us.

O Christ, Thou Lamb of God, that takest away the sin of the world, have mercy upon us.

O Christ, Thou Lamb of God, that takest away the sin of the world, grant us Thy peace. Amen.

Sit

625 Lord Jesus Christ, Life-Giving Bread

1 Lord Jesus Christ, life-giving bread,

May I in grace possess You.

Let me with holy food be fed,

In hunger I address You.

Prepare me well for You, O Lord,

And, humbly by my prayer implored,

Give me Your grace and mercy.

2 To pastures green, Lord, safely guide,

To restful waters lead me;

Your table well for me provide,

Your wounded hand now feed me.

Though weary, sinful, sick, and weak,

Refuge in You alone I seek,
To share Your cup of healing.

3 O bread of heav'n, my soul's delight,
For full and free remission
I come with prayer before Your sight
In sorrow and contrition.
Your righteousness, Lord, cover me
That I receive You worthily,
Assured of Your full pardon.

4 I do not merit favor, Lord,
My weight of sin would break me;
In all my guilty heart's discord,
O Lord, do not forsake me.
In my distress this comforts me
That You receive me graciously,
O Christ, my Lord of mercy!

Text: Johann Rist, 1607–67; tr. Arthur T. Russell, 1806–74, alt.
Text: Public domain

687 Thine Forever, God of Love

1 Thine forever, God of love!
Hear us from Thy throne above;
Thine forever may we be
Here and in eternity!

- 2 Thine forever! Oh, how blest
They who find in Thee their rest!
Savior, guardian, heav'nly friend,
O defend us to the end!
- 3 Thine forever, Lord of Life!
Shield us through our earthly strife.
Thou, the life, the truth, the way,
Guide us to the realms of day.
- 4 Thine forever! Shepherd, keep
These Thy frail and trembling sheep;
Safe alone beneath Thy care,
Let us all Thy goodness share.
- 5 Thine forever! Thou our guide,
All our wants by Thee supplied,
All our sins by Thee forgiv'n;
Lead us, Lord, from earth to heav'n.

Text: Mary F. Maude, 1819–1913 Text: Public domain

Stand

Nunc Dimittis

LSB 199

**C Lord, now lettest Thou Thy servant depart in peace
according to Thy word,
for mine eyes have seen Thy salvation, which Thou hast
prepared before the face of all people,**

**a light to lighten the Gentiles
and the glory of Thy people Israel.
Glory be to the Father and to the Son
and to the Holy Ghost;
as it was in the beginning, is now,
and ever shall be, world without end. Amen.**

Thanksgiving

LSB 200

P O give thanks unto the Lord, for He is good,
C and His mercy endureth forever.

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.

P The Lord be with you.

C And with thy spirit.

Benedicamus

LSB 202

P Bless we the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

Benediction

LSB 202

P The Lord bless you and keep you.

The Lord make His face shine upon
you and be gracious unto you.
The Lord lift up His countenance upon you
and + give you peace.

C Amen, amen, amen.

655 Lord, Keep Us Steadfast in Your Word

- 1 Lord, keep us steadfast in Your Word;
Curb those who by deceit or sword
Would wrest the kingdom from Your Son
And bring to naught all He has done.
- 2 Lord Jesus Christ, Your pow'r make known,
For You are Lord of lords alone;
Defend Your holy Church that we
May sing Your praise eternally.
- 3 O Comforter of priceless worth,
Send peace and unity on earth;
Support us in our final strife
And lead us out of death to life.

Text: Martin Luther, 1483–1546; tr. Catherine Winkworth, 1827–
78, alt. Text: Public domain

Acknowledgments

Divine Service, Setting Three from Lutheran Service Book
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Attendance Last Week: 205

General giving last week: \$10,574.82

Budget giving needed: \$ 7,500.00

Calendar of Activities this week at St. John

21 Thursday	Worship Service/HC	6:30 pm
24 Sunday	Worship Service/HC	9:00 am

MISSIONARY VISITOR THIS SUNDAY: We are privileged to be joined by JB, a missionary to Central Asia this Sunday. She'll give a short talk during our announcement time and a 30-minute presentation after the service for whoever would like to join. We'll also be taking a door collection to support her work for the Lord. Thank you for your support!

FOOD PANTRY COLLECTION IN AUGUST: August has five Sundays so we will be accepting donations for the Berlin Food Pantry. Please place non-perishable food items, paper products, and monetary donations in the bin located in the card room. Your generous donations are very much appreciated.

ST. JOHN LUTHERAN SCHOOL BACK TO SCHOOL KICKOFF:

August 19 & 20, 2025. 4pm – 7pm at St. John School. PTL will provide refreshments. Students can meet their teachers and bring their school supplies for the coming year. There will also be an opportunity on both nights to have school pictures taken. Any questions...contact the School Office at 920-361-0555.

GRIEFSHARE AT RIVER SHORES: GriefShare is a nation-wide, Christian program that will help you find support and teach you how to navigate the emotions and stresses after the loss of a loved one. Led by a trained facilitator, a 13-week group will be meeting on Tuesdays at 6:00PM at River Shores Church beginning August 26. At each meeting you'll watch a video with advice from grief experts, discuss with the group what was learned during the video, and utilize a workbook with exercises and articles that help you find comfort and manage daily stresses. You'll be encouraged to share but can wait until you're ready. If you're interested, please contact Amy Brooks at (920) 789-9385; she would love to share her experience and answer any further questions.

SUNDAY SCHOOL NEWS: We're excited to share that we've been blessed with a new volunteer Lead for Sunday School! Now, we are looking for individuals to come alongside and support the Lead and this program. As they say - Many hands make light work.

We need:

- **Teachers** (you don't need to commit to every Sunday—occasional help is welcome!)
- **Activity & Games** (to plan, host fun, or even offer ideas for

meaningful activities)

- **Helpers** (if you're willing to pitch in wherever needed and just want to be a part of it)
- **Music** If you have a passion or talent for music of any kind, we would love to share that with you. (again, you don't need to commit to every Sunday—occasional help is welcome)

If you have a talent, passion, idea, or simply a heart for serving children and the church, we encourage you to reach out to Pastor or a member of the School Board.

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.

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Sermon Notes – 8-17-25 – Poor In Spirit

-“Blessed are the poor in spirit, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.” (Matthew 5:3)

-“Blessed are the _____, for they shall inherit the earth.”
(Matthew 5:5)

-These two beatitudes get at the very heart of the Christian life.

-_____ is essential.

-In a spiritual sense, we're bankrupt.

-That's what it means to be "poor in spirit" and "meek". It's to realize that before God, I'm so sinful and there's nothing I can do to pay him back, nothing I can do to get to heaven.

-If we're self-confident and proud, if we refuse to humble ourselves before God and beg him for mercy, we'll also be thrown in prison – the prison of _____.

-One thing the law does is act like a _____, it shows us our sinfulness.

-When we come to him humbly, he forgives our sins and welcomes us into heaven!

-The "poor in spirit", the "meek" – those who aren't too proud to beg Jesus for mercy – receive from Jesus _____ !

-The promise of the kingdom of heaven and inheriting the earth for the poor in spirit and the meek is not an empty promise.

-It's a promise that _____, true God, earned for us by becoming poor in spirit and meek himself!

-Jesus loves us and has freed us from our sins by his blood and made us a kingdom..." (Revelation 1:5-6)

-Come to Jesus humbly, recognizing that you are unable, come to him begging, poor in spirit, meek, and receive from him – only him – the greatest _____ of all: everlasting life in the paradise of the kingdom of heaven!