

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

THE BEATITUDES

*“Rejoice
and be glad,
for your reward
is great in
heaven.”*

Matthew 5:12, ESV

The 9th Sunday after Pentecost
August 7 and 10, 2025

Serving Us Today:
Pastors Schrader and Busse
Organist: Nancy Wallner
920-361-9935
www.stjohnberlin.org

Large Print Bulletin

As We Gather... In His earthly life, Jesus chose to be a “peripatetic” teacher. Rather than staying in one place and having His learners come to Him, He went from place to place with disciples or followers who listened to the truths He taught as they went along. Walking with Jesus was the greatest of blessings! Whether we hear the Gospel teachings of our Lord in the same setting week by week and year by year or find ourselves in a variety of worship locations and settings, we, too, find blessing in hearing Him as did His first followers. The hymn writer Sigismund von Birken invites us simply: “Let us ever walk with Jesus” (*LSB* 685:1). May we be blessed in our walking and in our listening today!

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

718 Jesus, Lead Thou On

1 Jesus, lead Thou on

Till our rest is won;

And although the way be cheerless,

We will follow calm and fearless.

Guide us by Thy hand

To our fatherland.

**2 If the way be drear,
If the foe be near,
Let not faithless fears o’ertake us;
Let not faith and hope forsake us;
For through many_a woe
To our home we go.**

**3 When we seek relief
From a long-felt grief,
When temptations come alluring,
Make us patient and enduring.
Show us that bright shore
Where we weep no more.**

**4 Jesus, lead Thou on
Till our rest is won.
Heav’nly leader, still direct us,
Still support, console, protect us,
Till we safely stand
In our fatherland.**

Text: Nicolaus Ludwig von Zinzendorf, 1700–60; tr. Jane L.
Borthwick, 1813–97, alt.
Text: Public domain

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 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 147:8–11; antiphon: v. 7

Sing to the LORD with thanksgiving;
make melody to our God on the lyre!

He covers the heavens with clouds; he prepares rain for the earth; he makes grass grow on the hills.

He gives to the beasts their food,
and to the young ravens that cry.

**His delight is not in the strength of the horse,
nor his pleasure in the legs of a man,**

but the LORD takes pleasure in those who fear him,
in those who hope in his steadfast love.

**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.**

Sing to the LORD with thanksgiving;
make melody to our God on the lyre!

Kyrie LSB 204

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

Salutation and Collect of the Day

P The Lord be with you.

C And also with you.

P Let us pray.

Almighty and merciful God, it is by Your grace that we live as Your people who offer acceptable service. Grant that we may walk by faith, and not by sight, in the way that leads to eternal life; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

CAmen.

Sit

****Scripture printed here is for SUNDAY ONLY.****

For Pastor Busse's service on Thursday, there will not be a printed version here or on the screens.

Old Testament Reading

Deuteronomy 30:15–20

¹⁵"See, I have set before you today life and good, death and evil.

¹⁶If you obey the commandments of the LORD your God that I command you today, by loving the LORD your God, by walking in his ways, and by keeping his commandments and his statutes and his rules, then you shall live and multiply, and the LORD your God will bless you in the land that you are entering to take possession of it. ¹⁷But if your heart turns away, and you will not hear, but are

drawn away to worship other gods and serve them, ¹⁸I declare to you today, that you shall surely perish. You shall not live long in the land that you are going over the Jordan to enter and possess.

¹⁹I call heaven and earth to witness against you today, that I have set before you life and death, blessing and curse. Therefore choose life, that you and your offspring may live, ²⁰loving the LORD your God, obeying his voice and holding fast to him, for he is your life and length of days, that you may dwell in the land that the LORD

swore to your fathers, to Abraham, to Isaac, and to Jacob, to give them."

P This is the Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

Epistle

James 1:12–18

¹²Blessed is the man who remains steadfast under trial, for when he has stood the test he will receive the crown of life, which God has promised to those who love him. ¹³Let no one say when he is tempted, "I am being tempted by God," for God cannot be tempted with evil, and he himself tempts no one. ¹⁴But each person is tempted when he is lured and enticed by his own desire. ¹⁵Then desire when it has conceived gives birth to sin, and sin when it is fully grown brings forth death.

¹⁶Do not be deceived, my beloved brothers. ¹⁷Every good gift and every perfect gift is from above, coming down from the Father of lights with whom there is no variation or shadow due to change. ¹⁸Of his own will he brought us forth by the word of truth, that we should be a kind of firstfruits of his creatures.

P This is the Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

Stand

Alleluia and Verse

C Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.

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

Holy Gospel

Matthew 5:1–12

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

C Glory to You, O Lord.

¹Seeing the crowds, [Jesus] went up on the mountain, and when he sat down, his disciples came to him.

²And he opened his mouth and taught them, saying:

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

⁴"Blessed are those who mourn, for they shall be comforted.

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

⁶"Blessed are those who hunger and thirst for righteousness, for they shall be satisfied.

⁷"Blessed are the merciful, for they shall receive mercy.

⁸"Blessed are the pure in heart, for they shall see God.

⁹"Blessed are the peacemakers, for they shall be called sons of God.

¹⁰"Blessed are those who are persecuted for righteousness' sake, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.

¹¹"Blessed are you when others revile you and persecute you and utter all kinds of evil against you falsely on my account. ¹²Rejoice and be glad, for your reward is great in heaven, for so they persecuted the prophets who were before you."

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

932 Jesus Sat with His Disciples

1 Jesus sat with His disciples

**On a mountainside one day;
As the crowds of people gathered,
He began to teach and say:
"Blessèd are the poor in spirit,
Heaven's kingdom they will share.
Blessèd are the sad and mourning,
Joy and comfort will be theirs.**

**2 "Blessèd are the meek and humble,
All the earth to them is willed.
Those who hunger to be holy,
They are bless'd and will be filled.
Yes, the merciful are blessèd,
Mercy will to them be shown.
And the pure in heart are blessèd,
They have eyes for God alone.**

**3 “Blessèd are God’s sons and daughters,
Making peace where there is strife.
Blessèd are the persecuted,
Who for righteousness lose life;
Their reward is great in heaven,
In the kingdom up above—
So be glad to share My suff’ring
And rejoice to know My love.”**

Text: Stephen P. Starke, 1955 Text: © 1997 Stephen P. Starke,
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Sermon “Faith” - Thursday “Blessed?” – Sunday

Stand

Prayer of the Church

Sit

Offering

Service of the Sacrament

Stand

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, let us now and evermore praise God's glorious name, 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

722 Lord, Take My Hand and Lead Me

1 Lord, take my hand and lead me

Upon life's way;

Direct, protect, and feed me

From day to day.

Without Your grace and favor

I go astray;

So take my hand, O Savior,

And lead the way.

2 Lord, when the tempest rages,

I need not fear,

For You, the Rock of Ages,

Are always near.

Close by Your side abiding,

I fear no foe,

For when Your hand is guiding,

In peace I go.

3 Lord, when the shadows lengthen

And night has come,

I know that You will strengthen

My steps toward home.

Then nothing can impede me,

O blessèd Friend;

**So take my hand and lead me
Unto the end.**

Text: Julie von Hausmann, 1825–1901; tr. Lutheran Book of Worship, 1978, alt. Text: © 1978 Lutheran Book of Worship. Used by permission: LSB Hymn License no. 110005513

746 Through Jesus' Blood and Merit

1 Through Jesus' blood and merit

I am at peace with God.

What, then, can daunt my spirit,

However dark my road?

My courage shall not fail me,

For God is on my side;

Though hell itself assail me,

Its rage I may deride.

2 There's nothing that can sever

From this great love of God;

No want, no pain whatever,

No famine, peril, flood.

Though thousand foes surround me,

For slaughter mark His sheep,

They never shall confound me,

The vict'ry I shall reap.

3 For neither life's temptation

Nor death's most trying hour

Nor angels of high station

Nor any other pow'r

**Nor things that now are present
Nor things that are to come
Nor height, however pleasant,
Nor darkest depths of gloom**

**4 Nor any creature ever
Shall from the love of God
This ransomed sinner sever;
For in my Savior's blood
This love has its foundation;
God hears my faithful prayer
And long before creation
Named me His child and heir.**

Text: Simon Dach, 1605–59; tr. The Lutheran Hymnal, 1941, alt.
Text: Public domain

Stand

Nunc Dimittis LSB 211

**C 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.

921 On What Has Now Been Sown

**1 On what has now been sown
Thy blessing, Lord, bestow;
The pow'r is Thine alone
To make it sprout and grow.
Do Thou in grace the harvest raise,
And Thou alone shalt have the praise!**

**2 To Thee our wants are known,
From Thee are all our pow'rs;
Accept what is Thine own
And pardon what is ours.
Our praises, Lord, and prayers receive,
And to Thy Word a blessing give.**

**3 O grant that each of us,
Now met before Thee here,
May meet together thus
When Thou and Thine appear
And follow Thee to heav'n, our home.
E'en so, amen, Lord Jesus, come!**

Text: John Newton, 1725–1807, alt. Text: Public domain

Acknowledgments

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Attendance Last Week: 188		
General giving last week: \$12,154.65		
Budget giving needed: \$ 7,500.00		

Calendar of Activities this week at St. John

11 Monday	Trustee Meeting	6 :30 pm
12 Tuesday	Board of Elders	6:30 pm
14 Thursday	Worship Service/HC	6:30 pm
17 Sunday	Worship Service/HC	9:00 am

MISSIONARY VISITOR ON AUGUST 17: We are privileged to be joined by JB, a missionary to Central Asia next 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. I hope you can join us!

HOLY BAPTISM: Being received through Baptism into the covenant and kingdom of God’s grace on Sunday after the service is Carson Daniel Dawson, son of Trevor and Ashley Dawson. Godparents for Carson are Jacob Smith and Christina Hoppa.

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.

HELP THE TRUSTEES WITH THE CHIMNEY PROJECT: On August 15 and 16, the Trustees will be working to take down the chimney at our school. If you have some time to spare, please come at about 9 am to get in on the action.

NEXT MEN'S MINISTRY MEETING: *Wednesday, August 13 at 5:30 at N9525 32nd Dr. Berlin.* All men over 16 are invited to join us for a campfire, food, BB gun target practice, and Bible Study on being Christian Men as we work. Bring your beverage of choice. We hope to see you there!

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.

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 altar for the worship services."

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.

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 \$1.00 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, Deb Schrader, Dawn Schroeder, Lori Piechowski, Leitha Kraus, Bonnie Sperberg, or June Richter.

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Sermon Notes – 8-10-25 – Blessed?

-I told you those stories to illustrate the two general ways we think about blessedness.

-To live, we've all got to have a sense of _____ – something to live for, something that gives us a sense of worth. And many find that in the traditional sense – success, wealth, good health. And many who don't have that traditional blessedness find it in a countercultural sense – "At least I have fun, freedom, love."

-Jesus told us about blessedness. And what he told us is not the traditional view nor the countercultural view – it's something different.

-He talked about blessing as a _____ – something real that people will receive from God.

-The things he offered, the things he says make a person truly blessed, are gifts that are outside of this world.

-There's no true blessedness to be found here because _____ erases every blessing. But Jesus came around and spoke of blessings that transcend death.

-There's a character in the book of Isaiah who is called "the _____." During his life, Jesus made it clear that he is that Suffering Servant that Isaiah prophesied about.

-“Yet it was the will of the Lord to crush him; he has put him to grief; when his soul makes an offering for guilt, he shall see his offspring; he shall prolong his days; the will of the Lord shall prosper in his hand.”

-That's why Jesus can speak of real blessing even in the face of death. That's why the Beatitudes are real...true. By dying and rising, _____ took away the thing that erases any and every blessing: death.

-Real blessedness is _____ beyond death. And the only one who can give us that gift is Jesus. So, the only thing – *the one and only thing* – that's really a blessing is coming closer to Jesus Christ so that your faith in him is strengthened.

-Anything that brings you closer to Jesus – that's a blessing.

-For when we understand that, we can orient our life properly – not around success, health, nor wealth, not around fun, freedom, nor love, not around my dreams and my goals, but instead around the one person life is really about: _____.

