

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



***The 13th Sunday after Pentecost
September 4 and 7, 2025***

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

Large Print Bulletin

As We Gather... Many grumbled when Jesus said, "I am the bread of life" (John 6:35). Perhaps we grumble as well. We are always looking for God to meet our expectations and to answer our needs as we see best. But we meet the Lord where He reveals Himself—from a manger that cradles the Son of God in flesh and blood to a cross on which the King dies to free His people from their sin, down to bread that promises His flesh and a cup, His blood. Where we will meet Him on the ground of faith, He will not leave us wanting. He will bestow upon us far more than we ask or dare to desire—the communion of His body and blood for the forgiveness of our sins and as pledge of the eternal life to come. What a blessed mystery is given to us by faith.

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

850 God of Grace and God of Glory

1 God of grace and God of glory,

On Your people pour Your pow'r;

Crown Your ancient Church's story;

Bring its bud to glorious flow'r.

Grant us wisdom, grant us courage

***For the facing of this hour,
For the facing of this hour.***

***2 Lo, the hosts of evil round us
Scorn the Christ, assail His ways!
From the fears that long have bound us
Free our hearts to faith and praise.
Grant us wisdom, grant us courage
For the living of these days,
For the living of these days.***

***3 Cure Your children's warring madness;
Bend our pride to Your control;
Shame our wanton, selfish gladness,
Rich in things and poor in soul.
Grant us wisdom, grant us courage
Lest we miss Your kingdom's goal,
Lest we miss Your kingdom's goal.***

***4 Save us from weak resignation
To the evils we deplore;
Let the gift of Your salvation
Be our glory evermore.
Grant us wisdom, grant us courage,
Serving You whom we adore,
Serving You whom we adore.***

Text: Harry Emerson Fosdick, 1878–1969 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 75:1–2, 6, 9; antiphon: v. 7

It is God who executes judgment,
putting down one and lifting up another.

**We give thanks to you, O God; we give thanks, for your name
is near. We recount your wondrous deeds.**

At the set time that I appoint, I will judge with equity.

**For not from the east or from the west
and not from the wilderness comes lifting up.**

But I will declare it forever;

I will sing praises to the God of Jacob.

**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.**

It is God who executes judgment,
putting down one and lifting up another.

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 of grace and mercy, teach us by Your Holy Spirit to follow the example of Your Son in true humility, that we may withstand the temptations of the devil and with pure hearts and minds avoid ungodly pride; through the same Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C Amen.

Sit

Old Testament Reading

Psalm 24:3–6

³Who shall ascend the hill of the LORD?

And who shall stand in his holy place?

⁴He who has clean hands and a pure heart,

who does not lift up his soul to what is false
and does not swear deceitfully.

⁵He will receive blessing from the LORD

and righteousness from the God of his salvation.

⁶Such is the generation of those who seek him,

who seek the face of the God of Jacob.

P This is the Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

Epistle

Hebrews 10:19–25

P The Epistle is from Hebrews, the tenth chapter.

¹⁹Therefore, brothers, since we have confidence to enter the holy places by the blood of Jesus, ²⁰by the new and living way that he

opened for us through the curtain, that is, through his flesh, ²¹and since we have a great priest over the house of God, ²²let us draw near with a true heart in full assurance of faith, with our hearts sprinkled clean from an evil conscience and our bodies washed with pure water. ²³Let us hold fast the confession of our hope without wavering, for he who promised is faithful. ²⁴And let us consider how to stir up one another to love and good works, ²⁵not neglecting to meet together, as is the habit of some, but encouraging one another, and all the more as you see the Day drawing near.

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 5:8

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

C Glory to You, O Lord.

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

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

811 Oh, That I Had a Thousand Voices

1 Oh, that I had a thousand voices

**To praise my God with thousand tongues!
My heart, which in the Lord rejoices,
Would then proclaim in grateful songs
To all, wherever I might be,
What great things God has done for me.**

2 O all you pow'rs that He implanted,

**Arise, keep silence now no more;
Put forth the strength that God has granted!
Your noblest work is to adore.
O soul and body, join to raise
With heartfelt joy our Maker's praise.**

3 You forest leaves so green and tender

**That dance for joy in summer air,
You meadow grasses, bright and slender,
You flow'rs so fragrant and so fair,**

**You live to show God's praise alone.
Join me to make His glory known.**

**4 All creatures that have breath and motion,
That throng the earth, the sea, the sky,
Come, share with me my heart's devotion,
Help me to sing God's praises high.
My utmost pow'rs can never quite
Declare the wonders of His might.**

**5 Creator, humbly I implore You
To listen to my earthly song
Until that day when I adore You,
Together with the angel throng
And learn with choirs of heav'n to sing
Eternal anthems to my King.**

**Text: Johann Mentzer, 1658–1734; tr. The Lutheran Hymnal,
1941, alt. Text: © 1941 Concordia Publishing House. Used by
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Sermon

Stand

Prayer of the Church

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

704 Renew Me, O Eternal Light

**1 Renew me, O eternal Light,
And let my heart and soul be bright,
Illumined with the light of grace
That issues from Your holy face.**

**2 Remove the pow'r of sin from me
And cleanse all my impurity
That I may have the strength and will
Temptations of the flesh to still.**

**3 Create in me a new heart, Lord,
That gladly I obey Your Word.**

**Let what You will be my desire,
And with new life my soul inspire.**

**4 Grant that I only You may love
And seek those things which are above
Till I behold You face to face,
O Light eternal, through Your grace.**

Text: Johann Friedrich Ruopp, 1672–1708; tr. August Crull, 1845–1923, alt. Text: Public domain

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

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.

701 Draw Us to Thee

**1 Draw us to Thee,
For then shall we
Walk in Thy steps forever
And hasten on
Where Thou art gone
To be with Thee, dear Savior.**

**2 Draw us to Thee,
Lord, lovingly;
Let us depart with gladness
That we may be
Forever free
From sorrow, grief, and sadness.**

**3 Draw us to Thee;
O grant that we
May walk the road to heaven!
Direct our way**

**Lest we should stray
And from Thy paths be driven.**

**4 Draw us to Thee
That also we
Thy heav'nly bliss inherit
And ever dwell
Where sin and hell
No more can vex our spirit.**

**5 Draw us to Thee
Unceasingly,
Into Thy kingdom take us;
Let us fore'er
Thy glory share,
Thy saints and joint heirs make us.**

Text: Friedrich Funcke, 1642–99; tr. August Crull, 1845–1923, alt.
Text: Public domain

Attendance Last Week: 215

General giving last week:	\$6474.39
Budget giving needed:	\$7500.00

Calendar of Activities this week at St. John

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

DOOR COLLECTION FOR HUMAN CARE: Today a free will collection will be taken at the door. All funds collected will be used by the St. John Human Care Committee to assist in the various ministries they are involved in.

NEW MEMBER CLASS: If you are interested in joining St. John, please talk with Pastor Rob. He'll be leading a class for new members beginning on Wednesday, Sept 17 at 6:30 PM and running for eight consecutive weeks. Members are also welcome to join if you'd like to learn.

NEXT MEN'S MINISTRY MEETING: All men over the age of 16 are invited to join us on Wednesday, Sept. 10 at 6:00 PM at 139 S Swetting St to grill some meat, play some card/yard games, and study what the Bible says about being men at work. Please bring a lawn chair. We hope you'll join us!

SUNDAY ADULT BIBLE CLASS STARTS ON SEPTEMBER 7th: Please join us for Bible class after our Sunday service in the basement. We are going to continue going through Micah. For our next study,

I'll be taking topic requests from the congregation; please let me know if you have any. I hope you'll join us!

SIGN UP FOR A CONNECTION GROUP: Our Connection Groups connect Christians to other Christians, Christians closer to Christ, and non-Christians to Connection Groups. If you want to get connected to other Christians and our awesome God, sign up for a Connection Group in the narthex today. We have Groups that meet at different times and for different ages. If you have questions, please ask a leader or pick up an FAQ sheet in the narthex or email Pastor Rob at pastor@stjohnberlin.org.

BOARD OF TRUSTEES SPOTLIGHT: The Board of Trustees works faithfully behind the scenes to keep our church and school running—handling repairs, improvements, and upkeep so that we have a place to worship and educate our children in the faith. Their work is hands-on and practical, but also deeply important: by caring for our buildings, they make it possible for the Gospel to be shared. Many hands make light work and we'll be needing more trustees to serve in 2026, so if you'd like to learn more, please speak with Pastor Rob.

PRESCHOOL BOOK FUND: Our new preschool teacher, Miss Linse, would love to continue the tradition of getting as many books into our preschooler's hands as possible. Research has shown just how important early exposure to books is on a child's development. Would you be willing to make a donation to the Preschool Book Fund? All donations will go to purchase books for the students to take home and build their own library. Please contact the school office or Miss Linse to donate.

ALTAR GUILD POTLUCK: Tuesday, September 16th. 6:00 pm. All ladies of St. John and all 6th, 7th, and 8th grade girls are invited. The Guild will provide the food and tableware. See you there!

HEARTLAND HOSPICE AT ST. JOHN ON SEPT. 10TH Could you be a hospice volunteer? Yes!

Come join us for a casual conversation about what hospice is and how you may be able to give back to the people in your community by being a hospice volunteer. **Wednesday, Sept. 10th at 6:00 pm.**

St. John Lutheran Church. Please RSVP by Email or Call: Jilean Cole – Volunteer Coordinator of Heartland Hospice.

JILEAN.COLE@HEARTLANDHOSPICE.COM **920-251-0291.**

Refreshments and gifts provided

ST. JOHN SERVICE AVAILABLE ON RADIO! Tune in to AM 1600 or FM 93.1 at 9:00 am each week to hear our abbreviated St. John service broadcast. You can also listen on your computer anytime by doing the following:

Go to: <http://hometownbroadcasting.com/>

CLICK the PODCAST menu (2nd from left)

SCROLL down to near the bottom of that page

Select stjoh.mp3 from the list of available services

If you know of an ill or shut-in friend or relative who might like to tune in, please pass this information along to them.

CHURCH SERVICE AVAILABLE ANYTIME ON OUR WEBSITE: GO TO: www.stjohnberlin.org. Click on "CHURCH." Click on the CHURCH SERVICE/BULLETIN tab on the home page. Then click on the link to the service video. The link to the bulletin is there also.

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.

Sermon Notes – 9-7-25 – Pure In Heart

-“Blessed are the pure in heart, for they shall see _____.” (Matthew 5:8)

-To “see God” is the ultimate – it’s the peak, the pinnacle – there’s nothing better!

-“They will see God’s _____, and his name will be on their foreheads. And night will be no more. They will need no light of lamp or sun, for the Lord God will be their light, and they will reign forever and ever.” (Revelation 22:4-5)

-“You cannot see my face, for man shall not see me and live.” (Exodus 33:30)

-God is so perfectly pure that if anything impure enters his presence, it'll be completely destroyed.

-“What comes out of a person is what _____ him. For from within, out of the heart of man, come evil thoughts, sexual immorality, theft, murder, adultery, coveting, wickedness, deceit, sensuality, envy, slander, pride, foolishness.” (Mark 7:20-23)

-Rather than “pure”, we are defiled in heart. Therefore, we shall never see God.

-Might there still be a way for us to become “pure in heart” so that we can have this amazing blessing of “_____ God”?

-“The blood of Christ who, through the eternal spirit, offered himself without blemish to God, purifies our conscience.”
(Hebrews 9:14)

-Jesus was “without blemish” – that’s another way of saying that he was “pure in heart”.

-He “offered himself”. Even though he was innocent, he willingly went to the _____.

-“The blood of Christ...purifies our conscience.” Since Jesus took the punishment we deserve, his sacrifice (his blood) gives us what he deserved – a pure conscience (heart) through which we’ll see God.

-Their hearts were “cleansed...by _____.” (Acts 15:9)

-It’s the one who has faith who is truly blessed because through that faith, they are made pure in heart and get to “see God”!