

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



***The 18th Sunday after Pentecost
October 9 and 12, 2025***

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

Large Print Bulletin

AS WE GATHER... Nobody likes to suffer. Yet, the reality is, in our broken and sinful world, suffering is inevitable. More than that, we who bear the name of Christ from Baptism will face suffering in our primary vocation as followers of Christ. Though the devil, the world, and our sinful flesh are enemies that are never to be taken lightly, we are reminded that in the sufferings of Christ, all sufferings are overcome—not by our efforts or fortitude, but by and through Christ alone, who has suffered for us, endured the cross and its shame, and risen to declare the ultimate victory won. This is what Paul knew and, more than that, believed throughout his many times of suffering and even imprisonment as he writes to Timothy. Nobody likes to suffer, but in times of suffering, we are empowered by faith to endure, knowing the salvation that is in and assured through Christ Jesus.

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

903 This Is the Day the Lord Has Made

**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

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 If we say we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us.

C But if we confess our sins, God, who is faithful and just, will forgive our sins and cleanse us from all unrighteousness.

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

P Let us then confess our sins to God our Father.

C Most merciful God, we confess that we are by nature sinful and unclean. We have sinned against You in thought, word, and deed, by what we have done and by what we have left undone. We have not loved You with our whole heart; we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. We justly deserve Your present and eternal punishment. For the sake of Your Son, Jesus Christ, have mercy on us. Forgive us, renew us, and lead us, so that we may delight in Your will and walk in Your ways to the glory of Your holy name. 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

Kyrie LSB 186

C Lord, have mercy upon us.

Christ, have mercy upon us.

Lord, have mercy upon us.

This Is the Feast *LSB 155*

**C This is the feast of victory for our God.
Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.**

**Worthy is Christ, the Lamb who was slain, whose blood set us
free to be people of God.**

**This is the feast of victory for our God.
Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.**

**Power, riches, wisdom, and strength, and honor, blessing, and
glory are His.**

**This is the feast of victory for our God.
Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.**

**Sing with all the people of God, and join in the hymn of all
creation:
Blessing, honor, glory, and might be to God and the Lamb
forever. Amen.**

**This is the feast of victory for our God.
Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.**

For the Lamb who was slain has begun His reign. Alleluia.

**This is the feast of victory for our God.
Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.**

Salutation and Collect of the Day

P The Lord be with you.

C And also with you.

P Let us pray.

Almighty God, You show mercy to Your people in all their troubles.

Grant us always to recognize Your goodness, give thanks for Your compassion, and praise Your holy name; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C Amen.

Sit

The Commissioning of the Connection Group Leaders

Old Testament Reading

Isaiah 61:1–3

¹The Spirit of the Lord God is upon me, because the Lord has anointed me to bring good news to the poor, he has sent me to bind up the brokenhearted, to proclaim liberty to the captives, and the opening of the prison to those who are bound ²to proclaim the year of the Lord's favor and the day of vengeance of our God, to comfort all who mourn; ³to grant to those who mourn in Zion — to give them a beautiful headdress instead of ashes, the oil of gladness instead of mourning, the garment of praise instead of a

faint spirit; that they may be called oaks of righteousness, the planting of the Lord, that he may be glorified.

P This is the Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

Epistle

2 Corinthians 5:14–21

¹⁴For the love of Christ controls us, because we have concluded this: that one has died for all, therefore all have died; ¹⁵and he died for all, that those who live might no longer live for themselves but for him who for their sake died and was raised.

¹⁶From now on, therefore, we regard no one according to the flesh. Even though we once regarded Christ according to the flesh, we regard him thus no longer. ¹⁷Therefore, if anyone is in Christ, he is a new creation. The old has passed away; behold, the new has come. ¹⁸All this is from God, who through Christ reconciled us to himself and gave us the ministry of reconciliation; ¹⁹that is, in Christ God was reconciling the world to himself, not counting their trespasses against them, and entrusting to us the message of reconciliation. ²⁰Therefore, we are ambassadors for Christ, God making his appeal through us. We implore you on behalf of Christ, be reconciled to God. ²¹For our sake he made him to be sin who knew no sin, so that in him we might become the righteousness of God.

P This is the Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

Stand

Alleluia and Verse LSB 156

C Alleluia.

Lord, to whom shall we go?

You have the words of eternal life.

Alleluia, alleluia.

Holy Gospel

Matthew 11:2–6

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

C Glory to You, O Lord.

²Now when John heard in prison about the deeds of the Christ, he sent word by his disciples ³and said to him, "Are you the one who is to come, or shall we look for another?" ⁴And Jesus answered them, "Go and tell John what you hear and see: ⁵the blind receive their sight and the lame walk, lepers are cleansed and the deaf hear, and the dead are raised up, and the poor have good news preached to them. ⁶And blessed is the one who is not offended by me."

P This is the Gospel of the Lord.

C Praise to You, O Christ.

Children's Sermon

830 Spread the Reign of God the Lord

**1 Spread the reign of God the Lord,
Spoken, written, mighty Word;**

**Ev'rywhere His creatures call
To His heav'nly banquet hall.**

**2 Tell how God the Father's will
Made the world, upholds it still,
How His own dear Son He gave
Us from sin and death to save.**

**3 Tell of our Redeemer's grace,
Who, to save our human race
And to pay rebellion's price,
Gave Himself as sacrifice.**

**4 Tell of God the Spirit giv'n
Now to guide us on to heav'n,
Strong and holy, just and true,
Working both to will and do.**

**5 Enter, mighty Word, the field;
Ripe the promise of its yield.
But the reapers, oh, how few
For the work there is to do!**

**6 Lord of harvest, great and kind,
Rouse to action heart and mind;
Let the gath'ring nations all
See Your light and heed Your call.**

Text: Jonathan Friedrich Bahnmaier, 1774–1841; tr. composite

Text: Public domain

Sermon “The Message for Mission”

Stand

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.**

Prayer of the Church

Sit

Offering

Stand

Service of the Sacrament

Preface *LSB 160*

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.

Proper Preface

"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 161*

C Holy, holy, holy Lord God of pow'r and might:

Heaven and earth are full of Your glory.

Hosanna. Hosanna.

Hosanna in the highest.

Blessed is He who comes in the name of the Lord.

Hosanna in the highest.

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."

P As often as we eat this bread and drink this cup, we proclaim the Lord's death until He comes.

C Amen. Come, Lord Jesus.

P So remember us in Your kingdom and teach us to pray:

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.**

Pax Domini

LSB 163

P The peace of the Lord be with you always.
C Amen.

Agnus Dei

LSB 163

C Lamb of God, You take away the sin of the world;
have mercy on us.
Lamb of God, You take away the sin of the world;
have mercy on us.
Lamb of God, You take away the sin of the world;
grant us peace.

Distribution Hymns

636 Soul, Adorn Yourself with Gladness

1 Soul, adorn yourself with gladness,
Leave the gloomy haunts of sadness,
Come into the daylight's splendor,

**There with joy your praises render.
Bless the One whose grace unbounded
This amazing banquet founded;
He, though heav'nly, high, and holy,
Deigns to dwell with you most lowly.**

**2 Hasten as a bride to meet Him,
And with loving rev'ence greet Him.
For with words of life immortal
He is knocking at your portal.
Open wide the gates before Him,
Saying, as you there adore Him:
Grant, Lord, that I now receive You,
That I nevermore will leave You.**

**3 He who craves a precious treasure
Neither cost nor pain will measure;
But the priceless gifts of heaven
God to us has freely given.
Though the wealth of earth were proffered,
None could buy the gifts here offered:
Christ's true body, for you riven,
And His blood, for you once given.**

**4 Now in faith I humbly ponder
Over this surpassing wonder
That the bread of life is boundless
Though the souls it feeds are countless:
With the choicest wine of heaven**

**Christ's own blood to us is given.
Oh, most glorious consolation,
Pledge and seal of my salvation!**

**5 Jesus, source of lasting pleasure,
Truest friend, and dearest treasure,
Peace beyond all understanding,
Joy into all life expanding:
Humbly now, I bow before You;
Love incarnate, I adore You;
Worthily let me receive You
And, so favored, never leave You.**

**6 Jesus, sun of life, my splendor,
Jesus, friend of friends, most tender,
Jesus, joy of my desiring,
Fount of life, my soul inspiring:
At Your feet I cry, my maker,
Let me be a fit partaker
Of this blessed food from heaven,
For our good, Your glory, given.**

**7 Lord, by love and mercy driven,
You once left Your throne in heaven
On the cross for me to languish
And to die in bitter anguish,
To forego all joy and gladness
And to shed Your blood in sadness.**

**By this blood redeemed and living,
Lord, I praise You with thanksgiving.**

**8 Jesus, bread of life, I pray You,
Let me gladly here obey You.
By Your love I am invited,
Be Your love with love requited;
By this Supper let me measure,
Lord, how vast and deep love's treasure.
Through the gift of grace You give me
As Your guest in heav'n receive me.**

Text: Johann Franck, 1618–77; (sts. 1, 4–5): tr. Lutheran Book of Worship, 1978; (sts. 2–3, 6–8): tr. Catherine Winkworth, 1827–78, alt.. Text (sts. 1, 4–5): © 1978 Lutheran Book of Worship.

689 Let Me Be Thine Forever

**1 Let me be Thine forever,
My faithful God and Lord;
Let me forsake Thee never
Nor wander from Thy Word.
Lord, do not let me waver,
But give me steadfastness,
And for such grace forever
Thy holy name I'll bless.**

**2 Lord Jesus, my salvation,
My light, my life divine,**

**My only consolation,
O make me wholly Thine!
For Thou hast dearly bought me
With blood and bitter pain.
Let me, since Thou hast sought me,
Eternal life obtain.**

**3 And Thou, O Holy Spirit,
My comforter and guide,
Grant that in Jesus' merit
I always may confide,
Him to the end confessing
Whom I have known by faith.
Give me Thy constant blessing
And grant a Christian death.**

Text: tr. Matthias Loy, 1828–1915, alt.; (st. 1): Nicolaus Selnecker, 1532–92; (sts. 2–3): Gesang-Büchlein, 1688, Rudolstadt Text: Public domain

Stand

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.

Benediction *LSB 166*

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.

702 My Faith Looks Up to Thee

**1 My faith looks up to Thee,
Thou Lamb of Calvary,
Savior divine.**

**Now hear me while I pray;
Take all my guilt away;
O let me from this day
Be wholly Thine!**

**2 May Thy rich grace impart
Strength to my fainting heart;
My zeal inspire!
As Thou hast died for me,
Oh, may my love to Thee
Pure, warm, and changeless be,
A living fire!**

**3 While life's dark maze I tread
And griefs around me spread,**

**Be Thou my guide;
Bid darkness turn to day,
Wipe sorrow's tears away,
Nor let me ever stray
From Thee aside.**

**4 When ends life's transient dream,
When death's cold, sullen stream
Shall o'er me roll,
Blest Savior, then, in love,
Fear and distrust remove;
O bear me safe above,
A ransomed soul!**

Text: Ray Palmer, 1808–87 Text: Public domain

Acknowledgments

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Attendance Last Week: 218

General giving last week: \$15,456.00

Budget giving needed: \$ 7,500.00

Calendar of Activities this week at St. John

13 Monday	Trustee Meeting	6:30 pm
14 Tuesday	Board of Education	6:00 pm
14 Tuesday	Elder meeting	6:30 pm
16 Thursday	Worship Service/HC	6:30 pm
19 Sunday	Worship Service/HC	9:00 am

ASLEEP IN JESUS: Karen Rowen fell asleep in the arms of her Savior on Tuesday, September 30th and received Christian funeral on Friday, October 10th. 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 Brian Drews. Brian entered eternal life with his Lord and Savior on Thursday, October 2nd and received a Christian funeral at St. John Lutheran Church on Wednesday, October 8th.

ASLEEP IN JESUS Darlene Strey fell asleep in the arms of her Savior on Monday, October 6th and will receive a Christian funeral on Tuesday, October 14th at Wiecki-Skipchak Funeral Home . May the Lord comfort those who remain with His words: "BECAUSE I LIVE, YE SHALL LIVE ALSO."

FREE CHRISTIAN CONCERT - THE GARMS FAMILY On Friday, November 7, the Garms Family will be bringing their musical gifts to

our church. Please join us for a "Night of Encouragement" where you'll be uplifted by the Gospel message told through their bluegrass, southern gospel music and honest stories. While the concert will be free of charge, a freewill offering will be taken; the concert begins at 6:30.

CELEBRATE RECOVERY AT RIVER SHORES! Celebrate Recovery is a Christ-centered, 12-step recovery group for anyone struggling with hurt, pain, or addiction of any kind. Meetings are held every Monday night at 6:00 pm at River Shores Church in Berlin. Feel free to call or text Bob M. with any questions: (920) 896-3755. Change is possible!

EVANGELISM TEAM MEMBERS NEEDED! If you want to make an eternal difference in the life of someone, please consider and pray about joining the Evangelism Team we're reigniting. There are thousands of people in our community who don't know about Jesus; and God has put our church in Berlin to change that. Our Evangelism Team will seek God's will for how he'll do that great work through us and lead our church in being on mission in our community!

CHURCH COUNCIL SPOTLIGHT: Our Church Council is made up of elected leaders, including the President, Vice President, Secretary, Treasurer, Financial Secretary, and board chairmen, along with our Pastor and Principal. This group meets monthly to handle the business of the church and school. Serving on the Council is a meaningful way to use your time and talents, get involved with what's happening behind the scenes, and help keep our congregation running smoothly. If you'd like to learn more or get involved, contact Bob or Amy Radliff at 920-361-1437 or theradliffs@gmail.com.

THIS WEEK IN SUNDAY SCHOOL: “A Laughable Promise,”

Participants study the birth of Isaac. The Lord and two angels appear to Abraham in human form, promising the birth of a son to Abraham and Sarah within the year. Sarah conceives and gives birth to Isaac, as the Lord fulfills His promise of generations to come and the promised future Offspring—the Savior, Jesus.

WEEKLY COPIES OF THE *BADGERBYTES*, the school newsletter, are available in the information rack in the Narthex.

UPCOMING OPENING ON BOARD OF EDUCATION: St. John Board of Christian Education is looking to fill two board positions in January. Any candidate must be a voting member of St. John Lutheran Church. If you are interested, please contact the school office, Miss Linse or any board member.

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."

DIVORCE CARE SUPPORT GROUP: A DivorceCare support group for people walking through separation or divorce is starting soon. At a Divorce Care group, you'll have a weekly video with counsel and insights from respected divorce and recovery experts, as well as relatable personal stories – followed by a time of sharing and support. Session

topics include anger, loneliness, financial and legal issues, and navigating the relationship with your former spouse. Please join us at River Shores Church, 253 South Church Street in Berlin, on Thursdays from 6 pm to 8 pm, starting October 9th. Please enter through door #3 and follow the signs inside. For more information contact Becky at the church office (920-3776-5877) or visit divorcecare.org.

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Sermon Notes – October 9 and 12 The Message of Mission

-One of the biggest reasons people don't evangelize is because they feel like they don't _____ what to say or do.

1. We've got a problem. We're separated from God through sin.

2. God loves us, so he made a way for us to be _____ to him.

3. Jesus took our place, our sin, and was separated from God on the cross so we can have his place and be reconciled.

-“In Christ, God was reconciling the world to himself, not counting their trespasses against them...For our sake, he made Jesus to be _____ who knew no _____, so that in him we might become the righteousness of God.” (2 Corinthians 5:19-21)

-The message: Though you were separated from God by your sins, God loves you so much that he sent Jesus to die for your sins so you could be with him forever.

-We share with them as that message inspires us.

-“For the love of Christ _____ us...” (2 Corinthians 5:14)

-We _____ them the message.

-“But as servants of God we commend ourselves in every way: by great endurance, in afflictions, hardships, calamities, beatings, imprisonments, riots, labors, sleepless nights, hunger; by purity, knowledge, patience, kindness, the Holy Spirit, genuine love;” (2 Corinthians 6:4-6)

-One great way to share with people the message for mission is by _____ to show them message.

-We _____ the message to them.

-Tattered clothes are a problem, but they aren’t THE problem. We don’t just sacrifice and act like Jesus for its own sake, we do it to give us an opportunity to more powerfully tell the solution for the real problem: Jesus taking away our sin.

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A LIVE NIGHT OF ENCOURAGEMENT

The Garms Family



FREE
CONCERT

FRIDAY
NOV. 7
6:30 P

ST. JOHN
LUTH. CH.

FREEWILL OFFERING
WILL BE TAKEN

168 MOUND ST.
BERLIN, WI 54923