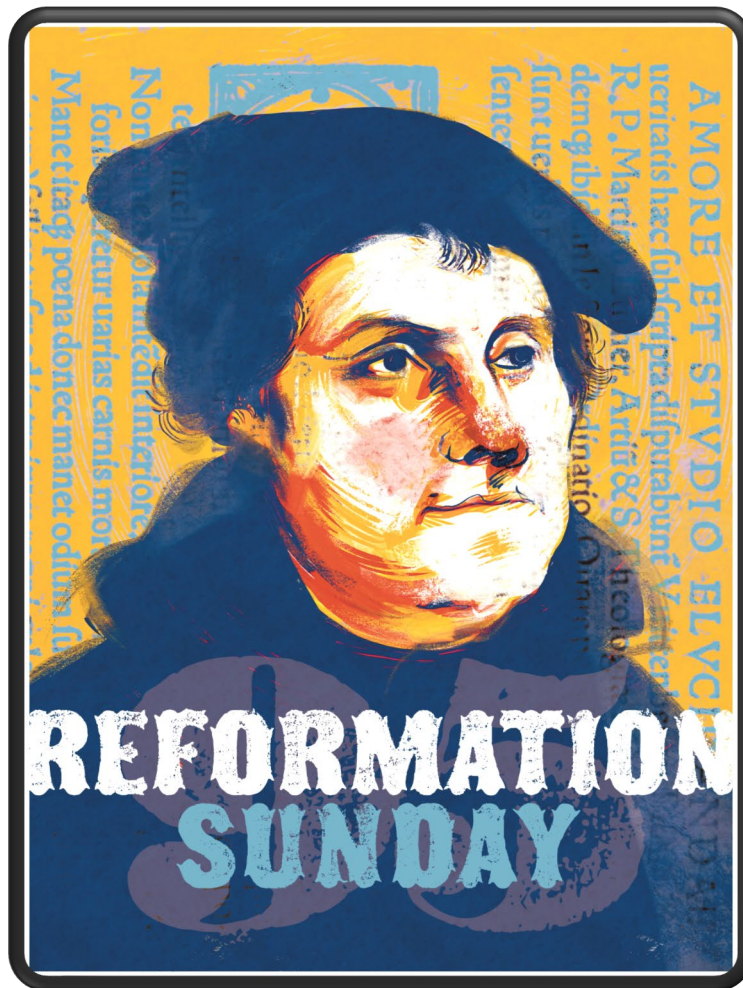


St. John Lutheran Church & School
Berlin, Wisconsin
The Lutheran Church – Missouri Synod



October 23 and 26, 2025

Serving Us Today:

Pastor Rob Schrader – Sunday

Pastor Busse - Thursday

Organist: Nancy Wallner

920-361-9935

www.stjohnberlin.org

Large Print Bulletin

As We Gather... We are blessed with many freedoms in this country. We have freedom of speech. We have freedom of religion, with the freedom to assemble. We live in the "land of the free and the home of the brave." It is easy to rely on our citizenship for proof of our freedom. In that way, we are like the Jewish people at the time of Jesus. They relied on their Abrahamic lineage for freedom, recalling the covenant God made with Abraham and his descendants. While these national freedoms are great blessings, in the Holy Gospel, Jesus points out that for true freedom, one must be free from slavery to sin. Only in Christ is anyone truly free.

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.

PREPARATION

657 A Mighty Fortress Is Our God

sts. 1–4

**1 A mighty fortress is our God,
A sword and shield victorious;
He breaks the cruel oppressor's rod
And wins salvation glorious.
The old satanic foe
Has sworn to work us woe.
With craft and dreadful might**

**He arms himself to fight.
On earth he has no equal.**

**2 No strength of ours can match his might.
We would be lost, rejected.
But now a champion comes to fight,
Whom God Himself elected.
You ask who this may be?
The Lord of hosts is He,
Christ Jesus, mighty Lord,
God's only Son, adored.
He holds the field victorious.**

**3 Though hordes of devils fill the land
All threat'ning to devour us,
We tremble not, unmoved we stand;
They cannot overpow'r us.
Let this world's tyrant rage;
In battle we'll engage.
His might is doomed to fail;
God's judgment must prevail!
One little word subdues him.**

**4 God's Word forever shall abide,
No thanks to foes, who fear it;
For God Himself fights by our side
With weapons of the Spirit.
Were they to take our house,
Goods, honor, child, or spouse,**

**Though life be wrenched away,
They cannot win the day.
The Kingdom's ours forever!**

Text: tr. Lutheran Book of Worship, 1978; Martin Luther, 1483–1546
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Invocation

P In the name of the Father and of the + Son and of the Holy Spirit.
C Amen.

Opening Sentences

Psalm 46:1, 7, 10–11

P God is our refuge and strength, a very present help in trouble.

C The LORD of hosts is with us; the God of Jacob is our fortress.

P "Be still, and know that I am God. I will be exalted among the nations, I will be exalted in the earth!"

C The LORD of hosts is with us; the God of Jacob is our fortress.

Confession and Absolution

Isaiah 35:10

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

C Almighty God, You are our mighty fortress. We resist this reality when we live according to the so-called wisdom of the world. We resist the reality that, in Christ, we are free indeed when we use our law-keeping as a measure of our standing with You. We resist the reality that You are with us when we celebrate Your works as our own. Still our selfish nature and

forgive our sins for Jesus' sake. Gladden our hearts and set us free.

P The prophet Isaiah reminds us, "The ransomed of the LORD shall return and come to Zion with singing; everlasting joy shall be upon their heads; they shall obtain gladness and joy, and sorrow and sighing shall flee away." This is our reality as Jesus forgives us and sets us free. As a called and ordained servant of Christ and by His authority, I forgive You all your sins in the name of the Father and of the + Son and of the Holy Spirit.

C Amen.

WORD

Introit

Psalm 34:1–2, 11, 22; antiphon: Psalm 119:46

P I will speak of Your testimonies before kings, O Lord, and shall not be put to shame.

C I will bless the LORD at all times; His praise shall continually be in my mouth.

P My soul makes its boast in the LORD; let the humble hear and be glad.

C Come, O children, listen to me; I will teach you the fear of the LORD.

P The LORD redeems the life of His servants; none of those who take refuge in Him will be condemned.

C 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.

P I will speak of Your testimonies before kings, O Lord, and shall not be put to shame.

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

P The Lord be with you.

C And also with you.

Prayer of the Day

P Let us pray. O God of glory, we worship You who made heaven and earth, the sea and the springs of water. We worship You who freely forgives us through the propitiation of Jesus' blood, which justifies us freely by Your grace; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and rules with You, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, ever one God, world without end.

C Amen.

First Reading

Isaiah 6:8

⁸And I heard the voice of the Lord saying, "Whom shall I send, and who will go for us?" Then I said, "Here am I! Send me."

P This is the Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

St. John School Cherub Choir sings in Sunday

Epistle

Acts 4:1–20

¹And as they were speaking to the people, the priests and the captain of the temple and the Sadducees came upon them, ²greatly annoyed because they were teaching the people and proclaiming in Jesus the resurrection from the dead. ³And they arrested them and put them in custody until the next day, for it was already evening. ⁴But many of those who had heard the word believed, and the number of the men came to about five thousand.

⁵On the next day their rulers and elders and scribes gathered together in Jerusalem, ⁶with Annas the high priest and Caiaphas and John and Alexander, and all who were of the high-priestly family. ⁷And when they had set them in the midst, they inquired, "By what power or by what name did you do this?" ⁸Then Peter, filled with the Holy Spirit, said to them, "Rulers of the people and elders, ⁹if we are being examined today concerning a good deed done to a crippled man, by what means this man has been healed, ¹⁰let it be known to all of you and to all the people of Israel that by the name of Jesus Christ of Nazareth, whom you crucified, whom God raised from the dead—by him this man is standing before you well. ¹¹This Jesus is the stone that was rejected by you, the builders, which has become the cornerstone. ¹²And there is salvation in no one else, for there is no other name under heaven given among men by which we must be saved."

¹³Now when they saw the boldness of Peter and John, and perceived that they were uneducated, common men, they were

astonished. And they recognized that they had been with Jesus.
¹⁴But seeing the man who was healed standing beside them, they had nothing to say in opposition. ¹⁵But when they had commanded them to leave the council, they conferred with one another, ¹⁶saying, "What shall we do with these men? For that a notable sign has been performed through them is evident to all the inhabitants of Jerusalem, and we cannot deny it. ¹⁷But in order that it may spread no further among the people, let us warn them to speak no more to anyone in this name." ¹⁸So they called them and charged them not to speak or teach at all in the name of Jesus. ¹⁹But Peter and John answered them, "Whether it is right in the sight of God to listen to you rather than to God, you must judge, ²⁰for we cannot but speak of what we have seen and heard."

P This is the Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

Verse

Luke 12:32

P Alleluia.

C Fear not, little flock, for it is your Father's good pleasure to give you the kingdom.

P Alleluia.

Holy Gospel

Luke 10:1-3

P The Holy Gospel according to St. Luke, the tenth chapter.

C Glory to You, O Lord.

¹After this the Lord appointed seventy-two others and sent them on ahead of him, two by two, into every town and place where he

himself was about to go. ²And he said to them, "The harvest is plentiful, but the laborers are few. Therefore pray earnestly to the Lord of the harvest to send out laborers into his harvest. ³Go your way; behold, I am sending you out as lambs in the midst of wolves.

P This is the Gospel of the Lord.

C Praise to You, O Christ.

Children's Sermon

664 Fight the Good Fight

- 1 Fight the good fight with all your might;
Christ is your strength, and Christ your right.
Lay hold on life, and it shall be
Your joy and crown eternally.**
- 2 Run the straight race through God's good grace;
Lift up your eyes, and seek His face.
Life with its way before us lies;
Christ is the path, and Christ the prize.**
- 3 Cast care aside, lean on your guide;
His boundless mercy will provide.
Trust, and enduring faith shall prove
Christ is your life and Christ your love.**
- 4 Faint not nor fear, His arms are near;
He changes not who holds you dear;**

**Only believe, and you will see
That Christ is all eternally.**

Text: John S. B. Monsell, 1811–75, alt. Text: Public domain

**Thursday Sermon: Pastor Busse “The Eternal Gospel to
Proclaim” Based on Revelation 14: 6-7**

Sunday Sermon: Pastor Schrader “Sent for Mission”

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

Offering

SACRAMENT

Preface

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 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

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."

Proclamation of Christ

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.

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

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

665 Be Strong in the Lord

**1 Be strong in the Lord
In armor of light,
With helmet and sword,
With shield for the fight;
On prayer be dependent,
Be belted and shod,
In breastplate resplendent:
The armor of God.**

**2 Integrity gird
You round to impart
The truth of His Word
As truth in your heart;
His righteousness wearing
As breastplate of mail,
His victory sharing,
Be strong to prevail.**

**3 With eagerness shod
Stand firm in your place,
Or go forth for God
With news of His grace;
No foe shall disarm you
Nor force you to yield,
No arrow can harm you
With faith as your shield.**

**4 Though Satan presume
To test you and try,
In helmet and plume**

**Your head shall be high;
Beset by temptation
Be true to your Lord,
Your helmet salvation
And Scripture your sword.**

**5 So wield well your blade,
Rejoice in its pow'rs,
Fight on undismayed
For Jesus is ours!
Then in Him victorious
Your armor lay down,
To praise, ever glorious,
His cross and His crown.**

Text: Timothy Dudley-Smith, 1926–2024 Text: © 1984 Hope
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110005513

663 Rise, My Soul, to Watch and Pray

**1 Rise, my soul, to watch and pray;
From your sleep awaken!
Be not by the evil day
Unawares o'ertaken;
For the foe,
Well we know,
Is a harvest reaping
While the saints are sleeping.**

**2 Watch against the devil's snares
Lest asleep he find you;
For indeed no pains he spares
To deceive and blind you.
Satan's prey
Oft are they
Who secure are sleeping
And no watch are keeping.**

**3 Watch! Let not the wicked world
With its lies defeat you
Lest with bold deceptions hurled
It betray and cheat you.
Watch and see
Lest there be
Faithless friends to charm you,
Who but seek to harm you.**

**4 Watch against yourself, my soul,
Lest with grace you trifle;
Let not self your thoughts control
Nor God's mercy stifle.
Pride and sin
Lurk within,
All your hopes to shatter;
Heed not when they flatter.**

**5 But while watching, also pray
To the Lord unceasing.
God protects you day by day,**

**Strength and faith increasing,
So that still
Mind and will
Shall unite to serve Him
And forever love Him.**

Text: Johann Burkhard Freystein, 1671–1718; tr. Catherine Winkworth, 1827–78, alt. Text: Public domain

Post-Communion Thanksgiving

P Let us pray. O God of Jacob, we give You glory for sending Your Son to set us free. We thank You for setting this feast of forgiveness before us. Empower us to proclaim Your eternal Gospel to all who dwell on earth, to every nation and tribe and language and people; 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

Psalm 46:1, 7, 10–11; Numbers 6:24–26

P God is our refuge and strength, a very present help in trouble.

C The LORD of hosts is with us; the God of Jacob is our fortress.

P “Be still, and know that I am God. I will be exalted among the nations, I will be exalted in the earth!”

C The LORD of hosts is with us; the God of Jacob is our fortress.

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.

660 Stand Up, Stand Up for Jesus

1 Stand up, stand up for Jesus,

Ye soldiers of the cross.

Lift high His royal banner;

It must not suffer loss.

From vict'ry unto vict'ry

His army He shall lead

Till ev'ry foe is vanquished,

And Christ is Lord indeed.

2 Stand up, stand up for Jesus;

The trumpet call obey;

Stand forth in mighty conflict

In this His glorious day.

Let all His faithful serve Him

Against unnumbered foes;

Let courage rise with danger

And strength to strength oppose.

3 Stand up, stand up for Jesus;

Stand in His strength alone.

The arm of flesh will fail you,

Ye dare not trust your own.

Put on the Gospel armor;

Each piece put on with prayer.

Where duty calls or danger,

Be never wanting there.

**4 Stand up, stand up for Jesus;
 The strife will not be long;
 This day the din of battle,
 The next the victor's song.
 The soldiers, overcoming,
 Their crown of life shall see
 And with the King of Glory
 Shall reign eternally.**

Text: George Duffield, Jr., 1818–88, alt. Text: Public domain

Creative Worship for the Lutheran Parish, Series C, Quarter 4.
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Attendance Last Week: 273	
General giving last week:	\$8917.00
Budget giving needed:	\$7500.00

Calendar of Activities this week at St. John

30 Thursday Worship Service/HC 6:30 pm

2 Sunday Worship Service/HC 9:00 am

HUMAN CARE will take a door collection NEXT WEEK to help provide funds for the work they do for people in need.

ST. JOHN SCHOOL SEEKING AIDE: St. John Lutheran School is looking for an aide to work 7:20am-2:20pm each day: They would assist with morning crossing guard responsibilities, be a teaching aide in a middle school classroom, and be a recess aide. Please contact the school at 920-361-0555 for an application.

FORMING A SAFETY PLAN Due to the possibility of a tornado, fire, or an active shooter incident, St. John needs to develop a safety plan. We are putting together a temporary safety committee to develop a plan to keep our congregation safe. If you are interested in this mission, please contact Pastor Rob at pastor@stjohnberlin.org or 920-539-4603.

CHRISTMAS VBS IS RIGHT AROUND THE CORNER! We are collecting items for underprivileged children overseas again. Box packing was impactful for attendees last year, so we have made plans to do it again. Complete lists of suggested donation items (including a list of items that cannot be sent) can be found on the Samaritan's Purse Operation Christmas Child website and on the display table in the narthex. Please prayerfully consider bringing hand crank flashlights, jump ropes, yo-yos, toy cars, soccer balls, ball pumps, dolls, socks and undergarments, toothbrushes, hair brushes, combs, dresses, t-shirts, school supplies, and coloring books. What a gift it is to share the abundance God has blessed us with! **ALSO**... If you have unused Thrivent Action cards and do not know where they could be useful, please talk to Deb Johanknecht or Kayla Gilmour.

LWML SUNDAY IS COMING! LWML Sunday will be celebrated this year on **Thursday, November 6th and Sunday, November 9th**. St. John LWML ladies will have a table in the Narthex which will feature information about the mission group and things to give away to children and adults. Be sure to check it out when you come to church that week. In addition, the LWML plans to collect mite box donations on the 6th and 9th in observation of LWML Sunday.

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!

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.

THIS WEEK IN SUNDAY SCHOOL: This week's lesson is "A Servant's Mission." Abraham tasks a faithful servant with finding a wife for Isaac from Abraham's homeland. The servant prays for a sign and waits at a well outside the city of Nahor. Rebekah appears, offering to draw water for both man and beast—the sign the servant had asked for.

Rebekah invites the servant to come to her family home. Having received gifts from Abraham, Rebekah's family sends her to Isaac with their blessings.

EMAIL OR ADDRESS CHANGE? PHONE # CHANGE? Please let the church office know so we can keep our records current. You may drop a note in the church office mailbox or write "CHANGED" on your next communion card and then fill in what has changed in your information. Thanks!!

ELECTRONIC GIVING: Would you like your stewardship to be automated? St. John enables you to give your church offering by using electronic funds transfer (EFT). You may already be using EFT to have your mortgage, car payment and bills automatically paid using this method. Now your gift to God can be regular and "off the top," just like these other commitments.

There is no cost to you for this service. Just think – you won't have to write 52 checks a year! And you won't have to wonder where you put your church offering envelopes.

If you would like to participate, contact Amy Radliff by phone 920-361-1437 or by email at theradliffs@gmail.com for an enrollment form.

You can give weekly or monthly. Your giving is recorded at the church office and will reflect on your annual statement.

FOR SAFETY REASONS, We are locking our side doors during the worship service. To enter please proceed to the front doors located on Mound Street. Sorry for the inconvenience and thank you for joining us!

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Sermon Notes – 10-26-25 – Sent for Mission

-All that we've talked about so far has been centered on the _____. Taking all of that together, that means we're also sent by the cross.

-Jesus' cross sends you on his mission of showing and telling others so that they may also be saved.

-“Whether it is right in the sight of God to listen to you rather than to God, you must judge, for we cannot but speak of what we have seen and heard.” (Acts 4:19-20)

-You have been _____ for mission.

-I want to share some practical considerations about how to actually do this.

-I can't cover everything. To be on the mission you've been sent for, you've got to continue to _____ God where he'll be equipping you.

-_____ is a great place to start mission – it often opens the door to being able to tell someone about Jesus.

-1. What do you have that can help people?

-2. Who are some people you can use those gifts to help?

-3. Pray and ask God for opportunities to share the Gospel with them.

-“Our mission is to make those around us curious about the God we worship by the lives we live.”

-To put it simply, living with peace in a crazy world, joy in a bleak world, love in a hateful world, hope in a despairing world...it makes us _____ in a good way – and that gives us an opportunity to tell the reason we’re different: Jesus.

-For the past year I’ve been praying for God to help us start and Evangelism Team here at church. You could _____ it.

-“Therefore, my beloved brothers, be steadfast, immovable, always abounding in the work of the Lord, knowing that in the Lord your labor is not in vain.” (1 Corinthians 15:58)

+++++

Resources For Mission

For the last five weeks we have talked all about mission. There’s nothing more important that we could be doing – in fact we were made for mission! And there is no greater need than for people to hear about Jesus Christ – he is the only way to be saved. Understanding this, I’ve tried to teach you the message for mission and where to go for God to continue to equip you for mission because YOU’VE BEEN SENT FOR MISSION! But there’s only so much that can be done in a 5-week sermon series; you’ll have to continue to learn and grow on your own – but I want to

help you to do that. Here are some resources that might be helpful for you.

- The Bible** (especially the New Testament) is a great tool. Read it with a mission focus and see how God wants you to be on mission and learn from Jesus and the apostles.
- Prayer** is another wonderful tool; no matter how well prepared you are, you'll never be good enough on your own – but God will help. Ask him for that help.
- Practice** is an important component. Just like anything else in life, evangelism takes practice. The more you intentionally do it, and the more you learn from your mistakes, the better you'll get at it.
- Joining Jesus on His Mission*** by Greg Fink is a book I would highly recommend reading. We have several copies in our church library.

- Here are some other resources that I have not used personally, but that have been recommended:
 - Books:** *Invitation to Evangelism* by Timothy Beougher / *The Complete Evangelism Guidebook* by Scott Dawson / *The Gospel and Personal Evangelism* by Mark Dever / *Becoming a Contagious Christian* by Hybels & Mittelberg / *Sharing the Gospel with Ease* by Thom Rainer / *Sharing Jesus without Freaking Out* by Hildreth and McKinion
 - YouTube Channels:** Easy Evangelism / Pulse Evangelism / just searching for others is a good idea, too.

-**Websites:** <https://livingwaters.com/> /
<https://evangelismexplosion.org/resources/> /
<https://www.evantell.org/>

-**Podcasts:** The Evangelism Podcast / Turn Evangelism /
Engage Your World Evangelism Podcast / Evangelism in a
Skeptical World

A LIVE NIGHT OF ENCOURAGEMENT

The Garms Family



FREE
CONCERT

FREEWILL OFFERING
WILL BE TAKEN

FRIDAY
NOV. 7
6:30 P

ST. JOHN
LUTH. CH.

168 MOUND ST.
BERLIN, WI 54923