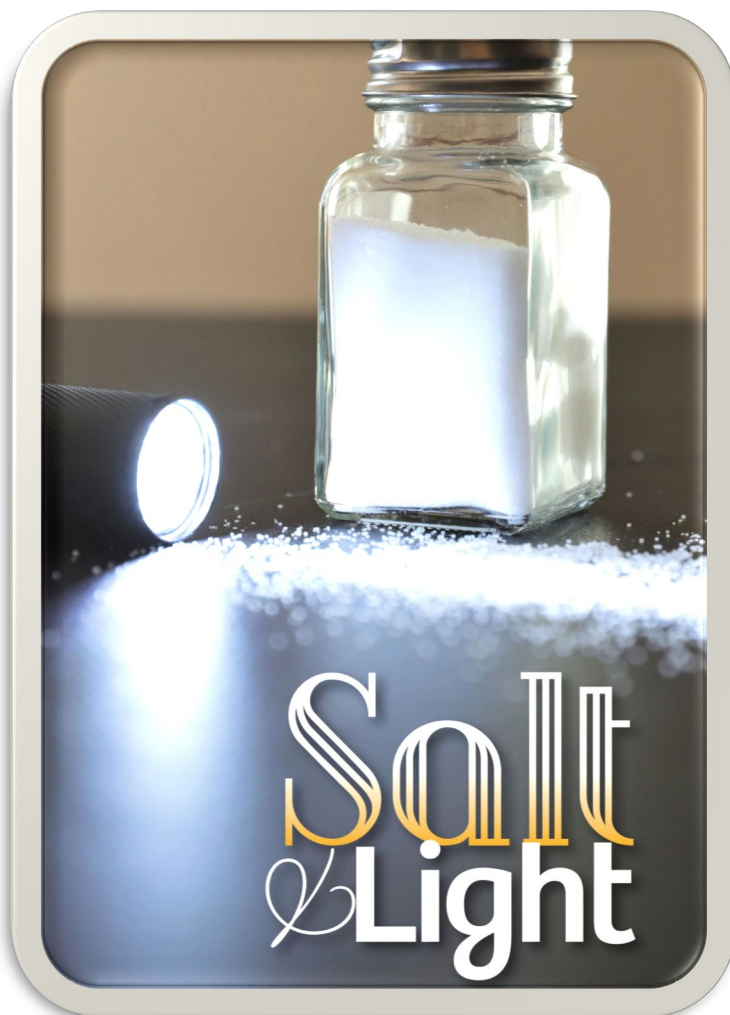


***St. John Lutheran Church & School
Berlin, Wisconsin
The Lutheran Church – Missouri Synod***



November 13 and 16, 2025

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

Large Print Bulletin

As We Gather... One of the great mysteries of the Christian faith can be summed up in the word "near." "Near" can indicate something that is almost here but hasn't yet arrived. And at the same time, "near" can point to something already with us, like those "near and dear" to our hearts. The word "near" resounds with feelings of the here and now and the not quite yet. Today in worship, Your Savior, Jesus, is near! He is present in the here and now, delivering grace upon grace. And He is on His way, bringing the fullness of His freedom. Praise the God who comes near in Jesus Christ, our Lord!

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

645 Built on the Rock

- 1 Built on the Rock the Church shall stand
Even when steeples are falling.
Crumbled have spires in ev'ry land;
Bells still are chiming and calling,
Calling the young and old to rest,
But above all the souls distressed,
Longing for rest everlasting.

- 2 Surely in temples made with hands
God, the Most High, is not dwelling;
High above earth His temple stands,
All earthly temples excelling.
Yet He who dwells in heav'n above
Chooses to live with us in love,
Making our bodies His temple.
- 3 We are God's house of living stones,
Built for His own habitation.
He through baptismal grace us owns
Heirs of His wondrous salvation.
Were we but two His name to tell,
Yet He would deign with us to dwell
With all His grace and His favor.
- 4 Here stands the font before our eyes,
Telling how God has received us.
The altar recalls Christ's sacrifice
And what His Supper here gives us.
Here sound the Scriptures that proclaim
Christ yesterday, today, the same,
And evermore, our Redeemer.
- 5 Grant, then, O God, Your will be done,
That, when the church bells are ringing,
Many in saving faith may come
Where Christ His message is bringing:
"I know My own; My own know Me.

You, not the world, My face shall see.
My peace I leave with you. Amen.”

Text: Nikolai Fredrik Severin Grundtvig, 1783–1872, abr.; tr. Carl Döving, 1867–1937, 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 Beloved in the Lord! Let us draw near with a true heart and confess our sins unto God our Father, beseeching Him in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ to grant us forgiveness.

P Our help is in the name of the Lord,

C who made heaven and earth.

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

C and You forgave the iniquity of my sin.

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

P O almighty God, merciful Father,

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

P Upon this your confession, I, by virtue of my office, as a called and ordained servant of the Word, announce the grace of God unto all of you, and in the stead and by the command of my Lord Jesus Christ I forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the + Son and of the Holy Spirit.

C Amen.

Stand

Service of the Word

Introit

Psalm 121:1–2, 5, 7–8; antiphon: Luke 21:33

Heaven and earth will pass away,
but my words will not pass away.

I lift up my eyes to the hills.

From where does my help come?

My help comes from the LORD,
who made heaven and earth.

**The LORD is your keeper;
the LORD is your shade on your right hand.**

The LORD will keep you from all evil;
he will keep your life.

**The LORD will keep your going out and your coming in
from this time forth and forevermore.**

Heaven and earth will pass away,
but my words will not pass away.

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

Salutation and Collect of the Day

P The Lord be with you.

C And with thy spirit.

P Let us pray.

O Lord, almighty and ever-living God, You have given exceedingly great and precious promises to those who trust in You. Rule and govern our hearts and minds by Your Holy Spirit that we may live and abide forever in Your Son, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C Amen.

Sit

Welcoming Our New Members (Sunday)

Old Testament Reading

Isaiah 42:5–7

⁵Thus says God, the LORD,
who created the heavens and stretched them out,
who spread out the earth and what comes from it,
who gives breath to the people on it
and spirit to those who walk in it:

⁶"I am the LORD; I have called you in righteousness;
I will take you by the hand and keep you;
I will give you as a covenant for the people,
a light for the nations,

⁷to open the eyes that are blind,
to bring out the prisoners from the dungeon,
from the prison those who sit in darkness.

P This is the Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

St. John Seraphim Choir Sings on Sunday

Epistle

Philippians 2:12–16

¹²Therefore, my beloved, as you have always obeyed, so now,
not only as in my presence but much more in my absence,
work out your own salvation with fear and trembling, ¹³for it is

God who works in you, both to will and to work for his good pleasure.

¹⁴Do all things without grumbling or questioning, ¹⁵that you may be blameless and innocent, children of God without blemish in the midst of a crooked and twisted generation, among whom you shine as lights in the world, ¹⁶holding fast to the word of life, so that in the day of Christ I may be proud that I did not run in vain or labor in vain.

P This is the Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

Stand

Alleluia

LSB 190

C Alleluia. Alleluia. Alleluia.

Holy Gospel

Matthew 5:13–16

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

C Glory be to Thee, O Lord.

¹³"You are the salt of the earth, but if salt has lost its taste, how shall its saltiness be restored? It is no longer good for anything except to be thrown out and trampled under people's feet.

¹⁴"You are the light of the world. A city set on a hill cannot be hidden. ¹⁵Nor do people light a lamp and put it under a basket, but on a stand, and it gives light to all in the house. ¹⁶In the same way, let your light shine before others, so that they may

see your good works and give glory to your Father who is in heaven.

P This is the Gospel of the Lord.

C Praise be to Thee, O Christ.

Apostles' Creed

**C I believe in God, the Father Almighty,
maker of heaven and earth.**

**And in Jesus Christ, His only Son, our Lord,
who was conceived by the Holy Spirit,
born of the virgin Mary,
suffered under Pontius Pilate,
was crucified, died and was buried.
He descended into hell.
The third day He rose again from the dead.
He ascended into heaven
and sits at the right hand of God the Father Almighty.
From thence He will come to judge
the living and the dead.**

**I believe in the Holy Spirit,
the holy Christian Church,
the communion of saints,
the forgiveness of sins,
the resurrection of the body,
and the life + everlasting. Amen.**

Children's Sermon

411 I Want to Walk as a Child of the Light

- 1 I want to walk as a child of the light.
I want to follow Jesus.
God set the stars to give light to the world.
The star of my life is Jesus. Refrain

**Refrain: In Him there is no darkness at all.
The night and the day are both alike.
The Lamb is the light of the city of God.
Shine in my heart, Lord Jesus.**

- 2 I want to see the brightness of God.
I want to look at Jesus.
Clear Sun of Righteousness, shine on my path,
And show me the way to the Father. **Refrain**
- 3 I'm looking for the coming of Christ.
I want to be with Jesus.
When we have run with patience the race,
We shall know the joy of Jesus. **Refrain**

Text: Kathleen Thomerson, 1934–2025. Text: © 1970, 1975
Celebration. Used by permission: LSB Hymn License no.
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Sermon "Christians ARE Salt & Light"

Offering St. John School Handbell Choir plays

Stand

Prayer of the Church

Service of the Sacrament

Preface

LSB 194

P The Lord be with you.

C And with thy spirit.

P Lift up your hearts.

C We lift them up unto the Lord.

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

C It is meet and right so to do.

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 195

C Holy, holy, holy Lord God of Sabaoth;

heav'n and earth are full of Thy glory.

Hosanna, hosanna, hosanna in the highest.

Blessed is He, blessed is He, blessed is He that cometh in the name of the Lord.

Hosanna, hosanna, hosanna in the highest.

Lord's Prayer

LSB 196

ALL **Our Father who art in heaven,
hallowed be Thy name,
Thy kingdom come,
Thy will be done on earth as it is in heaven;
give us this day our daily bread;
and forgive us our trespasses
as we forgive those who trespass against us;
and lead us not into temptation,
but deliver us from evil.
For Thine is the kingdom and the power and the glory
forever and ever. Amen.**

The Words of Our Lord

LSB 197

P Our Lord Jesus Christ, on the night when He was betrayed, took bread, and when He had given thanks, He broke it and gave it to the disciples and said: "Take, eat; this is My + body, which is given for you. This do in remembrance of Me."

In the same way also He took the cup after supper, and when He had given thanks, He gave it to them, saying: "Drink of it, all of you; this cup is the new testament in My + blood, which is shed for you for the forgiveness of sins. This do, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of Me."

Pax Domini

LSB 197

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

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

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

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

642 O Living Bread from Heaven

1 O living Bread from heaven,
How well You feed your guest!
The gifts that You have given
Have filled my heart with rest.
Oh, wondrous food of blessing,
Oh, cup that heals our woes!
My heart, this gift possessing,
With praises overflows.

2 My Lord, You here have led me
To this most holy place
And with Yourself have fed me
The treasures of Your grace;
For You have freely given
What earth could never buy,
The bread of life from heaven,
That now I shall not die.

3 You gave me all I wanted;
This food can death destroy.

And You have freely granted
The cup of endless joy.
My Lord, I do not merit
The favor You have shown,
And all my soul and spirit
Bow down before Your throne.

- 4 Lord, grant me then, thus strengthened
With heav'nly food, while here
My course on earth is lengthened,
To serve with holy fear.
And when You call my spirit
To leave this world below,
I enter, through Your merit,
Where joys unmingled flow.

Text: Johann Rist, 1607–67; tr. Catherine Winkworth, 1827–78,
alt. Text: Public domain

763 When Peace, like a River

- 1 When peace, like a river, attendeth my way;
When sorrows, like sea billows, roll;
Whatever my lot, Thou hast taught me to say,
It is well, it is well with my soul. Refrain

ref It is well (It is well)
with my soul, (with my soul),
It is well, it is well with my soul.

2 Though Satan should buffet, though trials should come,
Let this blest assurance control,
That Christ hath regarded my helpless estate
And hath shed His own blood for my soul. Refrain

3 He lives—oh, the bliss of this glorious thought;
My sin, not in part, but the whole,
Is nailed to His cross, and I bear it no more.
Praise the Lord, praise the Lord, O my soul! **Refrain**

4 And, Lord, haste the day when our faith shall be sight,
The clouds be rolled back as a scroll,
The trumpet shall sound and the Lord shall descend;
Even so it is well with my soul. **Refrain**

Text: Horatio G. Spafford, 1828–88, alt. Text: Public domain

Stand

Thanksgiving

LSB 200

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

P Let us pray.

We give thanks to You, almighty God, that You have refreshed us through this salutary gift, and we implore You that of Your mercy You would strengthen us through the same in faith toward You and in fervent love toward one another; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives

and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C Amen.

P The Lord be with you.

C And with thy spirit.

Benedicamus

LSB 202

P Bless we the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

Benediction

LSB 202

P The Lord bless you and keep you.

The Lord make His face shine upon you
and be gracious unto you.

The Lord lift up His countenance upon you
and + give you peace.

C Amen, amen, amen.

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

Acknowledgments

Divine Service, Setting Three from Lutheran Service Book
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Attendance Last Week: 243

General giving last week: \$11,731.98

Budget giving needed: \$ 7,500.00

Calendar of Activities this week at St. John

18 Tuesday	Altar Guild Meeting	6:30 pm
20 Thursday	Worship Service/HC	6:30 pm
23 Sunday	Worship Service/HC	9:00 am

JOIN US FOR A NEW MEMBER WELCOME RECEPTION, Sunday, November 16th, immediately following the service in the Church Narthex. Meet, greet, and welcome our new members to St. John's Lutheran Church. Refreshments provided.

ALTAR GUILD MEETING: The St. John Altar Guild will meet on Tuesday, November 18th at 6:30 pm.

BIBLE STUDY: TRUTH RISING: I know many of you ask: "What's happened to our world?" Beginning on November 30 in our after-Sunday-service Bible Study, we'll be looking at a new documentary and Bible study from Focus on the Family that looks at how and why our culture has changed over the last several decades. And as we understand the shift, we'll also talk about what God wants us to do about it. We hope you'll join us!

MONTHLY BIBLE VERSE – NOVEMBER: : "You are the light of the world. A city set on a hill cannot be hidden." **Matthew 5:14**

FOOD PANTRY: St. John is having a collection of non perishable food items and paper products the month of November for the Berlin Food Pantry. Items can be placed in the large blue bin labeled "Food Pantry". We want to thank everyone who have so generously donated this past year. Your support is truly appreciated.



PTL FRUIT SALE: It's that time again! The PTL Fruit Sale is on now through November 30th. You will find the order form in the Card room.

THIS WEEK IN SUNDAY SCHOOL: In today's lesson, "A Dreamer Rises," students will learn about how God works good for Joseph. Falsely accused, Joseph finds himself in prison interpreting dreams for Pharaoh's baker and cupbearer. When the Egyptian pharaoh has troubling dreams, God empowers Joseph to explain the visions. Pharaoh appoints him to the second highest position in the land, and Joseph manages the harvest to endure the coming famine.

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.

LADIES ARE INVITED TO AN ADVENT BY CANDLELIGHT: To ease the hustle and bustle of the Christmas season, join us for an afternoon of fellowship, music, and an Advent message from Pastor Rob. We will relax and focus on the true meaning of Christmas; our Savior. Join us Saturday, December 6th at 1:30 pm in the Church basement. A lovely dessert and beverages will be served. Please sign-up in the back of church by Thurs., November 20th. Contact Brenda Faucett at 920-202-2677, with any questions. We will collect items for the Berlin Food Pantry and a free will donation will take place for the St. John Lutheran School Roof Fund. (*Inclement weather date is Sun., Dec. 7th at 1:30 pm*).

MONTHLY MINISTRY SPOTLIGHT – LWML: Lutheran Women in Mission joyfully serve God by proclaiming Christ, supporting missions, and equipping women for service. Through mite box donations, St. John helps fund mission grants locally and nationally,

supporting efforts like Orphan Grain Train, Student Church Workers, and the Comfort Dog Mission. As part of Zone 12 in the South Wisconsin District, our group joins other congregations for rallies, prayer breakfasts, and service projects. There are many ways to be involved—active, inactive, or mailbox membership—all helping spread God’s Word and love in our communities and beyond.

*

Sermon Notes – 11-9-25 – Christians ARE Salt & Light

-Our world is _____ – there’s no meaning, and it’s _____ – there’s a lot of evil.

-Jesus came along and said that his followers are salt and light.

-We can only be salt and light through Jesus.

-To live as salt is to live with purpose and joy.

-To live as light is to live with _____ and love.

-To Jesus, it’s not an option. If you believe in him, you _____ salt and light.

-“If salt has lost its taste, how shall its saltiness be restored? It is no longer good for anything except to be thrown out and trampled under people’s feet.” (Matthew 5:13)

-Is _____ characterized by the meaning and flavor that believing in Jesus naturally infuses your life with?

-Have you ever put your Christian light under a basket?

-I don’t think I’m the only one here who’s completely _____ to be salt and light.

-I think Jesus’ harsh words are meant to convict us of our faithlessness and in that conviction, we can repent, go to him

for forgiveness, and through his forgiveness, have our faith strengthened. And then, through that faith, we'll live more as salt and light.

-If you really _____ that you deserve the punishment that Jesus endured and that he really did suffer it to forgive you, then it changes you – it infuses your life with salt and light.

-The more we _____ our failures and what we have because of Jesus' great forgiveness of those failures, the more we're filled with love, hope, purpose, and joy – the more we can be salt and light.