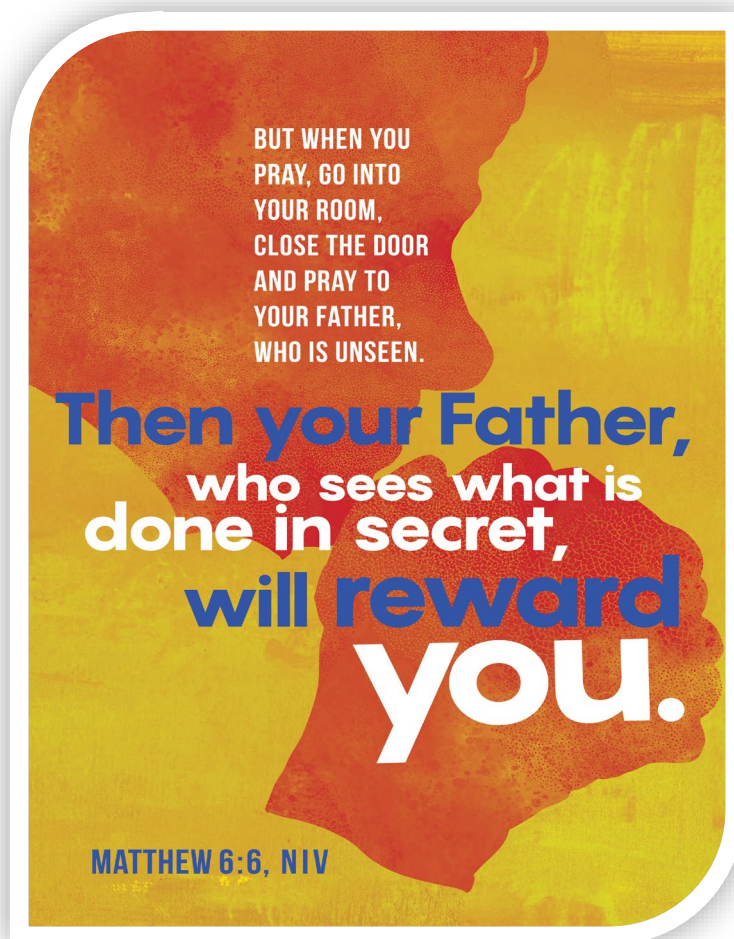


***St. John Lutheran Church & School
Berlin, Wisconsin
The Lutheran Church – Missouri Synod***



***May 7 and 10, 2026
The 3rd Sunday of Easter***

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

Large Print Bulletin

As We Gather... Throughout our lives, we look for a helper. Maybe that's a parent who can hold our hand to cross the street, a spouse who can open the pickle jar, or an expert who delivers wisdom we don't have. Our Lord Jesus Christ sends us a helper, the promised Holy Spirit. The Spirit opens our heart to faith and then fills it with heavenly wisdom. Present in our Baptism and present today in worship, the Spirit keeps our hand firmly in our Savior's, so that linked by love, we can walk confidently in His promises.

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 narthex.

Confession and Absolution

818 In Thee Is Gladness

**1 In Thee is gladness
Amid all sadness,
Jesus, sunshine of my heart.
By Thee are given
The gifts of heaven,
Thou the true Redeemer art.
Our souls Thou wakest,
Our bonds Thou breakest;**

**Who trusts Thee surely
Has built securely;
He stands forever: Alleluia!
Our hearts are pining
To see Thy shining,
Dying or living
To Thee are cleaving;
Naught can us sever: Alleluia!**

**2 Since He is ours,
We fear no powers,
Not of earth nor sin nor death.
He sees and blesses
In worst distresses;
He can change them with a breath.
Wherefore the story
Tell of His glory
With hearts and voices;
All heav'n rejoices
In Him forever: Alleluia!
We shout for gladness,
Triumph o'er sadness,
Love Him and praise Him
And still shall raise Him
Glad hymns forever: Alleluia!**

Text: Johann Lindemann, 1549–1631; tr. Catherine Winkworth,
1827–78, 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.

Stand

Service of the Word

Introit

Psalm 119:89–93; antiphon: v. 105

Your word is a lamp to my feet and a light to my path.

Forever, O LORD, your word is firmly fixed in the heavens.

Your faithfulness endures to all generations;

you have established the earth, and it stands fast.

**By your appointment they stand this day,
for all things are your servants.**

If your law had not been my delight,

I would have perished in my affliction.

**I will never forget your precepts,
for by them you have given me life.**

**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.**

Your word is a lamp to my feet and a light to my path.

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.

O God, the giver of all that is good, by Your holy inspiration grant that we may think those things that are right and by Your merciful guiding accomplish them; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

CAmen.

Sit

Old Testament Reading

Isaiah 64:6–9

⁶We have all become like one who is unclean,
and all our righteous deeds are like a polluted garment.

We all fade like a leaf,
and our iniquities, like the wind, take us away.

⁷There is no one who calls upon your name,
who rouses himself to take hold of you;
for you have hidden your face from us,
and have made us melt in the hand of our iniquities.

⁸But now, O LORD, you are our Father;
we are the clay, and you are our potter;
we are all the work of your hand.

⁹Be not so terribly angry, O LORD,
and remember not iniquity forever.
Behold, please look, we are all your people.

P This is the Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

Epistle

Hebrews 10:19–23

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.

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 6:5–8

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

C Glory to You, O Lord.

⁵“And when you pray, you must not be like the hypocrites. For they love to stand and pray in the synagogues and at the street corners, that they may be seen by others. Truly, I say to you, they have received their reward. ⁶But when you pray, go into your room and shut the door and pray to your Father who is in secret. And your Father who sees in secret will reward you.

⁷“And when you pray, do not heap up empty phrases as the Gentiles do, for they think that they will be heard for their many words. ⁸Do not be like them, for your Father knows what you need before you ask him.

P This is the Gospel of the Lord.

C Praise to You, O Christ.

Children’s Sermon

Hymn 770 What a Friend We Have in Jesus

**1 What a friend we have in Jesus,
All our sins and griefs to bear!
What a privilege to carry
Ev’rything to God in prayer!
Oh, what peace we often forfeit;
Oh, what needless pain we bear—
All because we do not carry
Ev’rything to God in prayer!**

**2 Have we trials and temptations?
Is there trouble anywhere?**

**We should never be discouraged—
Take it to the Lord in prayer.
Can we find a friend so faithful
Who will all our sorrows share?
Jesus knows our ev'ry weakness—
Take it to the Lord in prayer.**

**3 Are we weak and heavy laden,
Cumbered with a load of care?
Precious Savior, still our refuge—
Take it to the Lord in prayer.
Do thy friends despise, forsake thee?
Take it to the Lord in prayer.
In His arms He'll take and shield thee;
Thou wilt find a solace there.**

Text: Joseph M. Scriven, 1819–86 Text: Public domain

Sermon “Pray in Humility Toward Relationship”

Stand

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.

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.

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 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."

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

671 Sing with All the Saints in Glory

**1 Sing with all the saints in glory,
Sing the resurrection song!
Death and sorrow, earth's dark story,
To the former days belong.
All around the clouds are breaking;
Soon the storms of time shall cease;**

**In God's likeness we awaken,
Knowing everlasting peace.**

**2 Oh, what glory, far exceeding
All that eye has yet perceived!
Holiest hearts for ages pleading
Never that full joy conceived.
God has promised, Christ prepares it;
There on high our welcome waits.
Ev'ry humble spirit shares it,
Christ has passed the_ eternal gates.**

**3 Life eternal! Heav'n rejoices:
Jesus lives who once was dead.
Shout with joy, O deathless voices!
Child of God, lift up your head!
Life eternal! Oh, what wonders
Crowd on faith; what joy unknown,
When, amid earth's closing thunders,
Saints shall stand before the throne!**

Text: William J. Irons, 1812–83, alt. Text: Public domain

752 Be Still, My Soul

**1 Be still, my soul; the Lord is on your side;
Bear patiently the cross of grief or pain;
Leave to your God to order and provide;
In ev'ry change He faithful will remain.**

**Be still, my soul; your best, your heav'nly Friend
Through thorny ways leads to a joyful end.**

**2 Be still, my soul; your God will undertake
To guide the future as He has the past.
Your hope, your confidence let nothing shake;
All now mysterious shall be bright at last.
Be still, my soul; the waves and winds still know
His voice who ruled them while He dwelt below.**

**3 Be still, my soul; though dearest friends depart
And all is darkened in this vale of tears;
Then you will better know His love, His heart,
Who comes to soothe your sorrows and your fears.
Be still, my soul; your Jesus can repay
From His own fullness all He takes away.**

**4 Be still, my soul; the hour is hast'ning on
When we shall be forever with the Lord,
When disappointment, grief, and fear are gone,
Sorrow forgot, love's purest joys restored.
Be still, my soul; when change and tears are past,
All safe and blessèd we shall meet at last.**

Text: Catharina Amalia Dorothea von Schlegel, 1697–1752; tr. Jane L. Borthwick, 1813–97, alt. 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

Divine Service, Setting One from Lutheran Service Book. Unless otherwise indicated, Scripture quotations are from the ESV® Bible (The Holy Bible, English Standard Version®), copyright © 2001 by Crossway, a publishing ministry of Good News Publishers. Used by

permission. All rights reserved. Created by Lutheran Service Builder
© 2026 Concordia Publishing House.

Attendance Last Week: 267
General giving last week: \$16,401.00
Budget giving needed: \$ 7,500.00

Calendar of Activities this week at St. John

11 Monday	Board of Trustees	6:30 pm
12 Tuesday	Board of Education	6:00 pm
12 Tuesday	Board of Elders	6:30 pm
14 Thursday	Thursday Evening Service/HC	6:30 pm
17 Sunday	Worship Service/HC	9:00 am
17 Sunday	Voters Meeting after Church	10:30 am

No Bible Class because of Voters Meeting

ALTAR GUILD MEETING: The Altar Guild meeting is Tuesday, May 19th at 6:30pm. New members are welcome!

MISSION IN BERLIN: The Board of Elders invites you to a presentation on May 12th at 5:45 in the church basement to hear some insights about our community and some ways that we can better reach out to them as a church. We hope to see you there!

FOOD PANTRY NEWS: St. John is conducting a food drive in May benefiting the Berlin Food Pantry. In March we donated 742 lbs of food to them! We are accepting non-perishable food, paper products and monetary gifts. Please bring your donations to church and place them in the large blue bin.

CHURCH PICNIC ACTIVITIES: We'll be hosting our church picnic on July 19 and we're looking for someone to plan some activities for kids and adults. If you're interested, please talk with Pastor Rob. THANKS!

ST. JOHN LUTHERAN DINKS FOR DONATIONS PICKLEBALL TOURNAMENT



Join us for a fun 2v2 pickleball tournament on Saturday, July 11, starting at 8:00 AM at 344 Broadway St, Berlin, WI 54923.

Entry fee is one paper bag full of nonperishable food items for the Berlin Food Pantry. It's a double-elimination tournament with 15-minute games (most points wins) and best-of-3 for the final three matches. Concessions and a 50/50 raffle will be available. We're partnering with the Tri-County Area Boys & Girls Club. Prizes will be given to the top 3 teams. Sign up by messaging 920-658-3029.

All skill levels welcome — come play and support a great cause!

OPENING ON BOARD OF EDUCATION: The St. John Board of Christian Education is seeking a new board member due to a recent resignation, creating an open position. If you are interested in serving—or would like more information—please contact the school office or speak with any current board member. A list of current board members is printed on the back of the monthly newsletter.

Thank you for considering this opportunity to support Christian education at St. John.

WE'RE HIRING AT ST. JOHN LUTHERAN SCHOOL!

St. John Lutheran School in Berlin is seeking to hire:

- **An additional Middle School Teacher**
- **An additional Preschool Aide**

If you are interested—or know someone who may be a great fit—please contact the school office for more information:

Phone: 920-361-0555 **Email:** school@stjohnberlin.org

We would love for you to help us spread the word!

TITUS 2 WOMEN'S MINISTRY: Titus 2 is a women's group dedicated to building Christian relationships between different generations. Their next gathering is May 2nd from 5:00-8:00 at River Shores Church. For details and to RSVP call/text Rachel Cassidy at (920) 290-4459.

BERLIN BIKE RODEO – JOIN THE FUN! On May 16, 9:30–11:00 AM at Grace Lutheran (384 Oak St., Berlin) there is a free event for children ages 4–10 to build bike safety skills and will include prizes, games, and giveaways. Bring your own bike and helmet, and come enjoy a morning of fun! Adults must accompany children. Register by May 9 by calling (920) 279-7899. Along with other churches in Berlin, St. John is sponsoring it.

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

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."

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, or Bonnie Sperberg.

VOTERS MEETING – May 17th: The Quarterly Voters meeting will be held on Sunday, May 17th, following the church service. All communicant members age 18 and over are eligible to become voting members. Note: This is Confirmation day. The meeting "might" start a little later, depending on circumstances.

Sermon Notes – 2-22-26 – Pray in Humility toward Relationship

- _____ is so important! We need God, so we need to talk with him; and It's a great privilege to be able to do so.

-Pray in humility toward relationship with God.

-1. _____.

-Prayer isn't optional for Christians. It's expected that we'll be praying.

-We don't pray as much as we ought because we lack humility and fail to understand our need for a relationship with God. Either we think we have better things to do and/or we don't realize how necessary God is.

-Pray in humility toward relationship with God.

-2. Jesus' second lesson is: Pray for _____, not for show.

-Prayer to perform isn't really prayer. And I think we pray this way because we lack humility and fail to understand our need for a relationship with God.

-“But when you pray, go into your room and shut the door and pray to your Father who is in _____. And your Father who sees in secret will reward you.” (Matthew 6:6)

-Pray in humility toward relationship with God.

-3. Jesus' third lesson is: Pray in _____, not in control.

-Prayer isn't about getting what you want.

-“Do not be like them, for your Father knows what you need before you ask him.” (Matthew 6:8)

-“It’s not that God needs to be asked but that that we need to ask. Prayer is _____ with God in which we are brought into new relationships and new attitudes.”

-Pray in humility toward relationship with God.

-We’ve learned how to pray: In _____,
toward _____ with God.

-It’s hard to be humble, isn’t it? Do I *really* need God?

-How do I know that God actually wants a relationship with me?

-The answers are: Yes, you really NEED God. Yes, God really wants a relationship with you.

-As we look to the _____ and understanding that we need God and that he really wants a relationship with us, let’s pray and let’s pray as Jesus taught us: in humility, toward relationship with God.