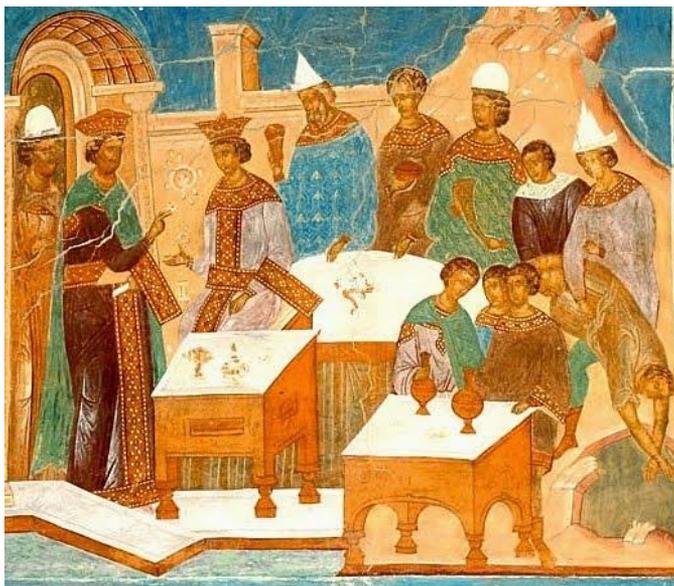




# St. John's Lutheran Church

Evangelical Lutheran Church in America

God's work. Our hands.



## *The 11th Sunday After Pentecost*

*August 24, 2025*

*10:30 Service of the Word*

What is the driving force behind your life? Getting ahead, making ends meet, paying for a vacation, paying down debt, looking good... the list could be endless. Of course the correct answer is the Love of God! Today we will hear Jesus teach how to live that love and resist all that promises false fulfillment.

*Welcome to worship today!*

If you are visiting St. John's we invite you to sign the Guest Book in the back of the sanctuary.

Large print bulletins are available on the usher's stand.

The Zoom feed for this service is shown in the nursery.

# † GATHERING †

## Prelude and Announcements

### Confession and Forgiveness

P: In the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

**C: Amen**

P: Almighty God, to whom all hearts are open, all desires known, and from whom no secrets are hid: Cleanse the thoughts of our hearts by the inspiration of your Holy Spirit, that we may perfectly love you and worthily magnify your holy name, through Jesus Christ our Lord.

**C: Amen**

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

P: Most merciful God,

**C: We confess that we are captive to sin and cannot free ourselves. 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. 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: God, who is rich in mercy, loved us even when we were dead in sin, and made us alive together with Christ. By grace you have been saved. In the name of Jesus Christ, your sins are forgiven. Almighty God strengthen you with power through the Holy Spirit, that Christ may live in your hearts through faith.

**C: Amen**

Gathering Hymn Father Most Holy  
(For music see Hymn 415 in the Red Hymnal)

**1. Father most holy, merciful, and tender;  
Jesus, our Savior, with the Father reigning;  
Spirit of comfort, advocate, defender,  
light never waning.**

2. **Trinity blessed, unity unshaken;  
goodness unbounded, very God of heaven,  
light of the angels, joy of those forsaken,  
hope of all living.**
3. **Maker of all things, all thy creatures praise thee;  
all for thy worship were and are created;  
now, as we also worship thee devoutly,  
hear thou our voices.**
4. **Lord God Almighty, unto thee be glory,  
one in three persons, over all exalted!  
Glory we offer, praise thee and adore thee,  
now and forever.**

Text: Latin hymn, 10<sup>th</sup> cent.; tr. Percy Dearmer, 1867-1935, alt., copyright Oxford University Press. Music: Paris *Antiphoner*, 1681

Greeting (2 Corinthians 13:13)

P: The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

**C: And also with you.**

Gathering Dialog (Deuteronomy 26, 11, 8)

A: You are the treasured people of the Lord,

**C: a people holy to the Lord our God.**

A: Keep the words of the Lord in your heart; teach them to your children.

**C: Talk about them when you are at home and when you are away,  
when you lie down and when you rise.**

A: One does not live by bread alone,

**C: but by every word that comes from the mouth of the Lord.**

Prayer of the Day

A: Let us pray...

O God of heaven, your ways are not our ways. Your perspective is not our perspective. Keep us from the things of this world that falsely promise to satisfy, and forgive us those many times we fall for the world's lies. We pray this through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

**C: Amen.**

† WORD †

*Scripture Poetry* Proverbs 25:1-10 (read responsively)

B: These are other proverbs of Solomon that the officials of King Hezekiah of Judah copied.

**C: <sup>2</sup>It is the glory of God to conceal things,  
but the glory of kings is to search things out.**

B: <sup>3</sup>Like the heavens for height, like the earth for depth,  
so the mind of kings is unsearchable.

**C: <sup>4</sup>Take away the dross from the silver,  
and the smith has material for a vessel;**

B: <sup>5</sup>take away the wicked from the presence of the king,  
and his throne will be established in righteousness.

**C: <sup>6</sup>Do not put yourself forward in the king's presence  
or stand in the place of the great;**

B: <sup>7</sup>for it is better to be told, "Come up here,"  
than to be put lower in the presence of a noble.

**C: What your eyes have seen <sup>8</sup>do not hastily bring into court;  
for what will you do in the end,  
when your neighbor puts you to shame?**

B: <sup>9</sup>Argue your case with your neighbor directly,  
and do not disclose another's secret;

**C: <sup>10</sup>or else someone who hears you will bring shame upon you,  
and your ill repute will have no end.**

*Second Reading* James 4:1-10

D: Those conflicts and disputes among you, where do they come from? Do they not come from your cravings that are at war within you? <sup>2</sup>You want something and do not have it; so you commit murder. And you covet something and cannot obtain it; so you engage in disputes and conflicts. You do not have, because you do not ask. <sup>3</sup>You ask and do not receive, because you ask wrongly, in order to spend what you get on your pleasures. <sup>4</sup>Adulterers! Do you not know that friendship with the world is enmity with God? Therefore whoever wishes to be a friend of the world becomes an enemy of God. <sup>5</sup>Or do you suppose that it is for nothing that the scripture says, "God yearns jealously for the spirit that he has made to dwell in us"? <sup>6</sup>But he gives all the more grace; therefore it says, "God opposes the proud, but gives grace to the humble." <sup>7</sup>Submit yourselves therefore to God. Resist the devil, and he will flee from you. <sup>8</sup>Draw near to God, and he will draw near to you. Cleanse your hands, you sinners, and purify your hearts, you double-minded. <sup>9</sup>Lament and mourn and weep. Let your laughter be turned into mourning and

your joy into dejection. <sup>10</sup>Humble yourselves before the Lord, and he will exalt you.

*After the reading the reader may say:* The Word of the Lord

**C: Thanks be to God.**

*Gospel Acclamation* (Luke 14:23)

**C: Alleluia. The Lord said, “Go out into the roads and lanes, and compel people to come in, so that my house may be filled.” Alleluia.**

*Gospel Reading* Luke 14:1-24

*The gospel is announced:*

P: The Holy Gospel according to St. Luke the 14<sup>th</sup> chapter.

**C: Glory to you O Lord.**

On one occasion when Jesus was going to the house of a leader of the Pharisees to eat a meal on the sabbath, they were watching him closely. <sup>2</sup>Just then, in front of him, there was a man who had dropsy. <sup>3</sup>And Jesus asked the lawyers and Pharisees, “Is it lawful to cure people on the sabbath, or not?” <sup>4</sup>But they were silent. So Jesus took him and healed him, and sent him away. <sup>5</sup>Then he said to them, “If one of you has a child or an ox that has fallen into a well, will you not immediately pull it out on a sabbath day?” <sup>6</sup>And they could not reply to this.

<sup>7</sup>When he noticed how the guests chose the places of honor, he told them a parable. <sup>8</sup>“When you are invited by someone to a wedding banquet, do not sit down at the place of honor, in case someone more distinguished than you has been invited by your host; <sup>9</sup>and the host who invited both of you may come and say to you, ‘Give this person your place,’ and then in disgrace you would start to take the lowest place. <sup>10</sup>But when you are invited, go and sit down at the lowest place, so that when your host comes, he may say to you, ‘Friend, move up higher’; then you will be honored in the presence of all who sit at the table with you. <sup>11</sup>For all who exalt themselves will be humbled, and those who humble themselves will be exalted.” <sup>12</sup>He said also to the one who had invited him, “When you give a luncheon or a dinner, do not invite your friends or your brothers or your relatives or rich neighbors, in case they may invite you in return, and you would be repaid. <sup>13</sup>But when you give a banquet, invite the poor, the crippled, the lame, and the blind. <sup>14</sup>And you will be blessed, because they cannot repay you, for you will be repaid at the resurrection of the righteous.”

<sup>15</sup>One of the dinner guests, on hearing this, said to him, “Blessed is anyone who will eat bread in the kingdom of God!” <sup>16</sup>Then Jesus said to him, “Someone gave a great dinner and invited many. <sup>17</sup>At the time for the dinner he sent his slave to say to those who had been invited, ‘Come;

for everything is ready now.’<sup>18</sup>But they all alike began to make excuses. The first said to him, ‘I have bought a piece of land, and I must go out and see it; please accept my regrets.’<sup>19</sup>Another said, ‘I have bought five yoke of oxen, and I am going to try them out; please accept my regrets.’<sup>20</sup>Another said, ‘I have just been married, and therefore I cannot come.’<sup>21</sup>So the slave returned and reported this to his master. Then the owner of the house became angry and said to his slave, ‘Go out at once into the streets and lanes of the town and bring in the poor, the crippled, the blind, and the lame.’<sup>22</sup>And the slave said, ‘Sir, what you ordered has been done, and there is still room.’<sup>23</sup>Then the master said to the slave, ‘Go out into the roads and lanes, and compel people to come in, so that my house may be filled.’<sup>24</sup>For I tell you, none of those who were invited will taste my dinner.’”

*After the reading:*

P: The gospel of the Lord

C: Praise to you O Christ.

### Children's Sermon

### Sermon

Hymn of the Day You Servants of God

(For music see Hymn 825 in the Red Hymnal)

1. **You servants of God, your Master proclaim,  
and publish abroad his wonderful name;  
the name, all-victorious, of Jesus extol;  
his kingdom is glorious and rules over all!**
2. **Ascended on high, almighty to save,  
yet still he is nigh, his presence we have.  
The great congregation his triumph shall sing,  
ascribing salvation to Jesus, our King!**
3. **Salvation to God who sits on the throne!  
Let all cry aloud and honor the Son.  
The praises of Jesus the angels proclaim,  
fall down on their faces, and worship the Lamb.**

**4. Then let us adore and give him his right,  
all glory and pow'r and wisdom and might,  
all honor and blessing, with angels above,  
and thanks never ceasing, and infinite love!**

Text: Charles Wesley, 1707-1788, alt. Music: attr. Johann Michael Haydn, 1737-1806

*Response to the Word*

P: In Christ you have heard the word of truth, the gospel of your salvation.

**C: We believe in him and are marked with the seal of the promised Holy Spirit.**

P: Living together in trust and hope, we confess our faith.

**C: I believe in God, the Father almighty,  
creator of heaven and earth.**

**I believe in Jesus Christ, God's 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 to the dead.  
On the third day he rose again;  
he ascended into heaven,  
he is seated at the right hand of the Father,  
and he will come to judge the living and the dead.**

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

A: Build yourselves up on your most holy faith;

**C: pray in the Holy Spirit.** *(Jude 20)*

A: Keep yourselves in the love of God;

**C: look forward to the mercy of our Lord Jesus Christ.** *(Jude 21)*

A: If anyone is in Christ, there is a new creation:

**C: Everything old has passed away;  
behold, everything has become new!** *(2 Corinthians 5:17)*

Peace

P: The peace of the Lord be with you always.

**C: And also with you.**

P: Let us share that peace with one another.

*The congregation may greet one another with a sign of Christ's peace.*

† THANKSGIVING †

Offertory and Gathering of Prayers and Offerings

*You are invited to write a prayer concern on the small blank slip of paper in your worship bulletin. This slip will be collected by the ushers in the offering plates. The concerns raised will be prayed for later in the service.*

Hymn of Thanksgiving

Lord Let My Heart Be Good Soil

*For music turn to Hymn 713 in the Blue Hymnal*

**Lord, let my heart be good soil,  
open to the seed of your Word.**

**Lord, let my heart be good soil,  
where love can grow and peace is understood.**

**When my heart is hard,  
break the stone away.**

**When my heart is cold,  
warm it with the day.**

**When my heart is lost,  
lead me on your way.**

**Lord, let my heart,**

**Lord, let my heart,**

**Lord, let my heart be good soil.**

Text and music: Handt Hanson, b. 1950, Copyright 1985 Prince of Peace Publishing/Changing Church, Inc.

Offering Prayer

P: Let us pray: Blessed are you, O God,

**C: ruler of heaven and earth. Day by day you shower us with blessings. As you have raised us to new life in Christ, give us glad and generous hearts, ready to praise you and to respond to those in need, through Jesus our Savior and Lord. Amen.**

Prayers of Intercession

P: With the whole people of God in Christ Jesus, let us pray for the church, those in need, and all of God's creation.

*Issues raised by the congregation are prayed for.*

*The prayer concludes:*

P: Into your hands, gracious God, we commend all for whom we pray, trusting in your mercy; through Jesus Christ our Savior.

**C: Amen.**

Lord's Prayer

P: Lord remember us in your kingdom and teach us to pray:

**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.**

†      SENDING      †

Blessing

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.**

Sending Hymn O Living Bread from Heaven

*(For music see Hymn 542 in the Red Hymnal)*

**1. O living Bread from heaven,  
how well you feed your guest!  
The gifts that you have given  
have filled my heart with rest.  
O wondrous food of blessing!  
O cup that heals our woes!**

**My heart, this gift possessing,  
in thankful song o'erflows!**

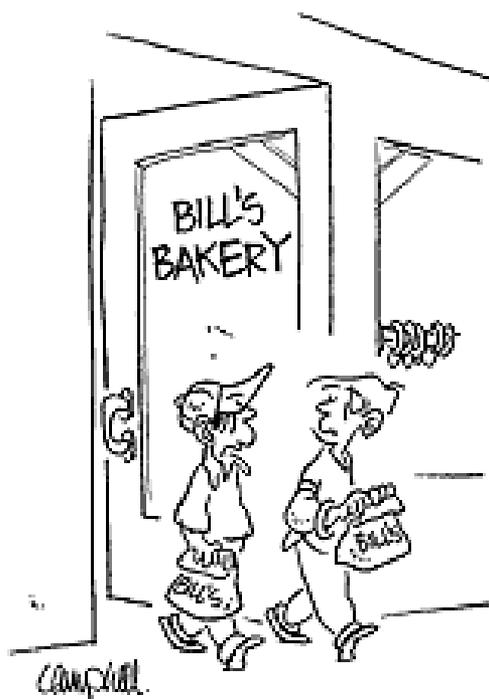
- 2. My Savior, you have led me  
within your holiest place,  
and here yourself have fed me  
with treasures of your grace;  
for you have freely given  
what earth could never buy,  
the bread of life from heaven,  
that now I shall not die.**
- 3. You gave me I all wanted;  
this food can death destroy.  
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. Oh, grant me then, well-strengthened  
with heav'nly food, while here  
my course on earth is lengthened,  
to serve you, free from fear;  
and bring me home to praise you  
where none can peace destroy,  
where I will ever raise you  
glad songs in endless joy.**

Text: Johann Rist, 1607-1667; tr. Catherine Winkworth, 1827-2878, alt. Music: Samuel Wesley, 1810-1876

**Dismissal**

**P: Go in peace. Serve the Lord.**

**C: God's Work. Our Hands.**



"Bill sure knows how to lead  
you into temptation."

**Worship assistants TODAY:**

Greeters and Ushers     Phyllis Henderson  
Acolyte                     Charlotte Stroup  
Counters                    Burdie Gillern and Babette Huber  
Coffee Hour

**Worship assistants for next Sunday, August 31**

Greeters and Ushers     Janice Lockwood  
Acolyte                     Elijah Young  
Counters                    John and Linda Thompson  
Coffee Hour

Scripture readings from the *New Revised Standard Version Bible* copyright 1989 by the Division of Christian Education of the National Council of Churches of Christ in the United States. Psalm from *The Psalter* copyright 1994, Liturgical Training Publications.

**St. John's Lutheran Church**  
888 County Road 9, Victor, NY 14564  
stjohnsvictor.com     (585) 924-5192  
The Rev. Jonathan Deibler, Pastor  
Dongwon Shin, Pianist