



# St. John's Lutheran Church

Evangelical Lutheran Church in America

God's work. Our hands.

Consider the ravens: They do not sow  
or reap, they have no storeroom or barn;  
yet God feeds them. And how much  
more valuable you are than birds!

**Luke 12:24**



DailyVerses.net

## *The 7th Sunday After Pentecost*

*July 27, 2025*

*10:30 Service of the Word*

Christians recognize that the source of all good things is the God who feeds the birds and clothes the grass of the field. We rejoice that we are held in the palm of God's hand. God cannot forget us any more than a woman could forget her nursing child. Nourished at the Lord's table, we share these gifts with those who are anxious, hungry, poor, or in any kind of need.

### *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 Thy Word is a Lamp Unto my Feet  
(For music turn to Hymn 36 in the Songbook binder)

*Refrain:* **Thy word is a lamp unto my feet  
and a light unto my path.  
Thy word is a lamp unto my feet  
and a light unto my path.**

1. **When I feel afraid, think I've lost my way,  
still you're there right beside me  
And nothing will I fear, as long as you are near  
Please be near me to the end.** *Refrain*

2. **I will not forget your love for me and yet,  
my heart forever is wandering.  
Jesus be my guide and hold me to your side,  
and I will love you to the end** *Refrain*

3. Instrumental-----  
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**Nothing will I fear as long as you are near.  
Please be near me to the end.** *Refrain*

Text by Amy Grant, music by Michael W. Smith; copyright 1984 Meadowgreen Music Co./Word Music, Inc.; CCLI #14301

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...

God, our creator, caretaker, and judge; you never forget your children, and you know already what we need. In all our anxiety give us trusting and faithful hearts, that in confidence we may embody the peace and justice of your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

**C: Amen.**

† WORD †

*First Reading* Isaiah 49:8-16a

B: Thus says the Lord:

Thus says the Lord: In a time of favor I have answered you,  
on a day of salvation I have helped you;

I have kept you and given you  
as a covenant to the people,

to establish the land,

to apportion the desolate heritages;

saying to the prisoners, "Come out,"

to those who are in darkness, "Show yourselves."

They shall feed along the ways,

on all the bare heights shall be their pasture;

they shall not hunger or thirst,

neither scorching wind nor sun shall strike them down,

for he who has pity on them will lead them,

and by springs of water will guide them.

And I will turn all my mountains into a road,

and my highways shall be raised up.

Lo, these shall come from far away,

and lo, these from the north and from the west,

and these from the land of Syene.

Sing for joy, O heavens, and exult, O earth;

break forth, O mountains, into singing!

For the Lord has comforted his people,

and will have compassion on his suffering ones.

But Zion said, "The Lord has forsaken me,

my Lord has forgotten me."

Can a woman forget her nursing child,

or show no compassion for the child of her womb?

Even these may forget,

yet I will not forget you.

See, I have inscribed you on the palms of my hands.

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

**C: Thanks be to God.**

*Scripture Poetry* Psalm 131 (read together)

**C: Lord, I am not proud,**

**holding my head too high,**

**reaching beyond my grasp.**

**No, I am calm and tranquil  
like a weaned child  
resting in its mother's arms:  
my whole being at rest.**

**Let God's people rest in the Lord,  
now and forever.**

*Second Reading* 1 Corinthians 4:1-5

D: [Paul writes] Think of us in this way, as servants of Christ and stewards of God's mysteries. Moreover, it is required of stewards that they be found trustworthy. But with me it is a very small thing that I should be judged by you or by any human court. I do not even judge myself. I am not aware of anything against myself, but I am not thereby acquitted. It is the Lord who judges me. Therefore do not pronounce judgment before the time, before the Lord comes, who will bring to light the things now hidden in darkness and will disclose the purposes of the heart. Then each one will receive commendation from God.

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

**C: Thanks be to God.**

*Gospel Acclamation* (Lamentations 3:22)

**C: Alleluia. The steadfast love of the Lord never ceases, God's mercies never come to an end. Alleluia.**

*Gospel Reading* Luke 12:22-34

*The gospel is announced:*

P: The Holy Gospel according to St. Luke the 12<sup>th</sup> chapter.

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

<sup>22</sup>He said to his disciples, "Therefore I tell you, do not worry about your life, what you will eat, or about your body, what you will wear. <sup>23</sup>For life is more than food, and the body more than clothing. <sup>24</sup>Consider the ravens: they neither sow nor reap, they have neither storehouse nor barn, and yet God feeds them. Of how much more value are you than the birds! <sup>25</sup>And can any of you by worrying add a single hour to your span of life? <sup>26</sup>If then you are not able to do so small a thing as that, why do you worry about the rest? <sup>27</sup>Consider the lilies, how they grow: they neither toil nor spin; yet I tell you, even Solomon in all his glory was not clothed like one of these. <sup>28</sup>But if God so clothes the grass of the field, which is alive today and tomorrow is thrown into the oven, how much more will he clothe you—you of little faith! <sup>29</sup>And do not keep striving for what you are to eat and what you are to drink, and do not keep

worrying. <sup>30</sup>For it is the nations of the world that strive after all these things, and your Father knows that you need them. <sup>31</sup>Instead, strive for his kingdom, and these things will be given to you as well. <sup>32</sup>“Do not be afraid, little flock, for it is your Father’s good pleasure to give you the kingdom. <sup>33</sup>Sell your possessions, and give alms. Make purses for yourselves that do not wear out, an unfailing treasure in heaven, where no thief comes near and no moth destroys. <sup>34</sup>For where your treasure is, there your heart will be also.

*After the reading:*

P: The gospel of the Lord

**C: Praise to you O Christ.**

### Children’s Sermon

### Sermon

Hymn of the Day      Lord Jesus, Think on Me  
(For music see Hymn 599 in the Red Hymnal)

1. **Lord Jesus, think on me,  
and purge away my sin;  
from selfish passions set me free  
and make me pure with-in.**
2. **Lord Jesus, think on me,  
by anxious thoughts oppressed;  
let me your loving servant be  
and taste your promised rest.**
3. **Lord Jesus, think on me,  
nor let me go astray;  
through darkness and perplexity  
point out your chosen way.**
4. **Lord Jesus, think on me,  
that, when the flood is past,  
I may the-eternal brightness see  
and share your joy at last.**

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 †

## Special Music 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 We All Are One in Mission  
(For music see Hymn 576 in the Red Hymnal)

- 1. We all are one in mission;  
we all are one in call,  
our varied gifts united  
by Christ the Lord of all.  
A single great commission  
compels us from above  
to plan and work together  
that all may know Christ's love.**
- 2. We all are called for service,  
to witness in God's name.  
Our ministries are different;  
our purpose is the same:  
to touch the lives of others  
with God's surprising grace,**

so ev'ry folk and nation  
may feel God's warm embrace.

3. **Now let us be united,  
and let our song be heard.  
Now let us be a vessel  
for God's redeeming Word.  
We all are one in mission;  
we all are one in call,  
our varied gifts united  
by Christ, the Lord of all.**

Text: Rusty Edwards, b. 1955, copyright 1986 Hope Publishing Company. Music: Finnish folk tune; arr. hymnal version, copyright 2006 Augsburg Fortress

*Dismissal*

P: Go in peace. Serve the Lord.

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



**Worship assistants TODAY:**

Greeters and Ushers	John and Linda Thompson
Acolyte	Charlotte Stroup
Counters	John and Linda Thompson
Coffee Hour	Mary Zuege

**Worship assistants for next Sunday, August 3**

Greeters and Ushers	Linn Griffo and Morgan Sackett
Acolyte	Elijah Young
Altar Care	Linda Thompson
Communion Assistant	Sally Mansfield
Counters	Bill and Katy Stimmel
Coffee Hour	Farewell Lunch for Will

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