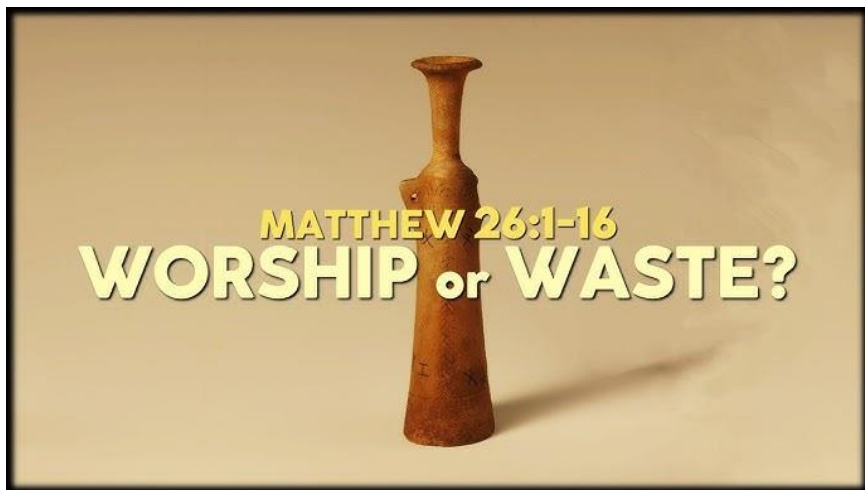




# St. John's Lutheran Church

Evangelical Lutheran Church in America

God's work. Our hands.



## *The 3rd Sunday After Pentecost*

*June 24, 2026      10:30 Service of the Word*

Today we read the only remaining part of Matthew's gospel that we haven't read during worship this year. It's the final scene before the Last Supper. Jesus is at the house of Simon the Leper and he is anointed by an unknown woman. The disciples are upset by the waste. They complain. Jesus explains the woman's act of devotion, but it causes Judas to seek out the religious leaders and betray Jesus.

### *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: Blessed be the Holy Trinity, one God,  
whose mercy endures forever.

**C: Amen.**

P: Let us confess our sin to God.

*Silence is kept for reflection.*

P: Merciful God,

**C: we confess to you all our sins.**

**Our burden is heavy, and we cannot free ourselves.**

**In your mercy, call us back to you.**

**Your yoke is easy and your burden is light.**

**Restore us to dwell in your peace.**

**In Christ's name we pray,**

**Amen.**

P: Jesus says, "Come to me,  
all who are carrying heavy burdens,  
and I will give you rest."

In the name of God,

Father, Son, and Holy Spirit,

Your sins are forgiven.

Rest in God's love.

**C: Amen.**

### Gathering Hymn How Firm a Foundation

*(For music see Hymn 796 in the Red Hymnal)*

- 1. How firm a foundation, O saints of the Lord,  
is laid for your faith in Christ Jesus, the Word!  
What more can he say than to you he has said  
who unto the Savior for refuge have fled?**
- 2. "Fear not, I am with you, oh, be not dismayed,  
for I am your God and will still give you aid;  
I'll strengthen you, help you, and cause you to stand,  
Upheld by my righteous, omnipotent hand."**
- 3. "When through fi'ry trials your pathway shall lie,**

**my grace, all sufficient, shall be your supply.  
The flames shall not hurt you; I only design  
your dross to consume and your gold to refine.”**

4. **“Throughout all their lifetime my people shall prove  
my sov’ reign, eternal, unchangeable love;  
and then, when gray hairs shall their temples adorn,  
like lambs they shall still in my bosom be borne.”**

Text: J. Rippon, *A Selection of Hymns*, 1787, alt. Music: Early American

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 of all peoples, your arms reach out to embrace all those who call upon you. Teach us as disciples of your Son to love the world with compassion and constancy, that your name may be known throughout the earth, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

**C: Amen.**

† WORD †

First Reading Deuteronomy 15:7-11

B: If there is among you anyone in need, a member of your community in any of your towns within the land that the Lord your God is giving you, do not be hard-hearted or tight-fisted towards your needy neighbor. <sup>8</sup>You should rather open your hand, willingly lending enough to meet the need, whatever it may be. <sup>9</sup>Be careful that you do not

entertain a mean thought, thinking, ‘The seventh year, the year of remission, is near’, and therefore view your needy neighbor with hostility and give nothing; your neighbor might cry to the Lord against you, and you would incur guilt. <sup>10</sup>Give liberally and be ungrudging when you do so, for on this account the Lord your God will bless you in all your work and in all that you undertake. <sup>11</sup>Since there will never cease to be some in need on the earth, I therefore command you, ‘Open your hand to the poor and needy neighbor in your land.’

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

**C: Thanks be to God.**

Scripture Poetry Psalm 15 (*read responsively*)

D: Lord, who is welcome in your house?

Who can rest on your holy mountain?

**C: Those who walk with integrity  
and do only what is right,  
speaking the truth with courage.**

D: They never spread slander  
or abuse their friends  
or condemn their neighbors.

**C: They disdain the godless,  
but honor those who believe.  
Before God, they give their word  
and keep it at any cost.**

D: They neither lend for gain  
nor take bribes against the guiltless.

**C: These are the just:  
they stand forever unshaken.**

Gospel Acclamation (1 Peter 1:25)

**C: Alleluia. The word of the Lord endures forever. That word is the good news that was announced to you. Alleluia.**

Gospel Reading Matthew 26:1-16

*The gospel is announced:*

P: The Holy Gospel according to St. Matthew the 26<sup>th</sup> chapter.

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

When Jesus had finished saying all these things, he said to his disciples, <sup>2</sup>‘You know that after two days the Passover is coming, and the Son of Man will be handed over to be crucified.’

Then the chief priests and the elders of the people gathered in the palace of the high priest, who was called Caiaphas, <sup>4</sup>and they conspired to arrest Jesus by stealth and kill him. <sup>5</sup>But they said, ‘Not during the festival, or there may be a riot among the people.’

Now while Jesus was at Bethany in the house of Simon the leper, <sup>6</sup>a woman came to him with an alabaster jar of very costly ointment, and she poured it on his head as he sat at the table. <sup>8</sup>But when the disciples saw it, they were angry and said, ‘Why this waste? <sup>9</sup>For this ointment could have been sold for a large sum, and the money given to the poor.’ <sup>10</sup>But Jesus, aware of this, said to them, ‘Why do you trouble the woman? She has performed a good service for me. <sup>11</sup>For you always have the poor with you, but you will not always have me. <sup>12</sup>By pouring this ointment on my body she has prepared me for burial. <sup>13</sup>Truly I tell you, wherever this good news is proclaimed in the whole world, what she has done will be told in remembrance of her.’

Then one of the twelve, who was called Judas Iscariot, went to the chief priests <sup>15</sup>and said, ‘What will you give me if I betray him to you?’ They paid him thirty pieces of silver. <sup>16</sup>And from that moment he began to look for an opportunity to betray him.

*After the reading:*

P: The gospel of the Lord

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

### Children’s Sermon

#### Sermon

Hymn of the Day Come, My Way, My Truth, My Life  
(For music turn to Hymn 816 in the Red Hymnal)

1. **Come, my way, my truth, my life:**  
Such a way as gives us breath;  
Such a truth as ends all strife;  
Such a life as killeth death.
2. **Come, my light, my feast, my strength:**  
Such a light as shows a feast;  
Such a feast as mends in length;  
Such a strength as makes his guest.
3. **Come, my joy, my love, my heart:**  
Such a joy as none can move;

**Such a love as none can part;  
such a heart as joys in love.**

Text: George Herbert, 1593-1632; Music: R. Vaughan Williams, 1872-1958

*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 lifted in prayer.*

*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 Come, Thou Fount of Every Blessing  
(For music see Hymn 807 in the Red Hymnal)

1. **Come, thou fount of every blessing,  
tune my heart to sing thy grace;  
streams of mercy, never ceasing,  
call for songs of loudest praise.  
While the hope of endless glory  
fills my heart with joy and love,  
teach me ever to adore thee;  
may I still thy goodness prove.**
  
2. **Here I raise my Ebenezer:  
“Hither by thy help I’ve come”;  
and I hope, by thy good pleasure,  
safely to arrive at home.  
Jesus sought me when a stranger,  
wand’ring from the fold of God;  
he, to rescue me from danger,  
interposed his precious blood.**
  
3. **Oh, to grace how great a debtor  
daily I’m constrained to be;  
let thy grace now like a fetter  
bind my wand’ring heart to thee.  
Prone to wander, Lord, I feel it;  
prone to leave the God I love.  
Here’s my heart, oh, take and seal it;  
seal it for thy courts above.**

Text: Robert Robinson, 1735-1790, alt. Music: J Wyeth, *Repository of Sacred Music*, Part II, 1813

Dismissal

P: Go in peace. Serve the Lord.

C: God’s Work. Our Hands.



Campbell.

"I thought Numbers was a book of the Bible."



"Let this be your first lesson in taking the Word out of context. 'Fighting the Good Fight' does not mean you try to pound on our pastor's three kids."

**Worship assistants TODAY:**

Greeters and Ushers     Rob Stroup  
Acolyte                     Alyssa Young  
Counters                    Greg and Mary Zuege  
Coffee Hour

**Worship assistants for next Sunday, June 21**

Greeters and Ushers     Tom and Carol Urbanic  
Acolyte                     Charlotte Stroup  
Altar Care                 Linda Flood  
Communion Assistant     Greg Zuege  
Counters                    Babette Huber and Burdie Gillern  
Coffee Hour                Father's Day

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Dongwon Shin, Pianist