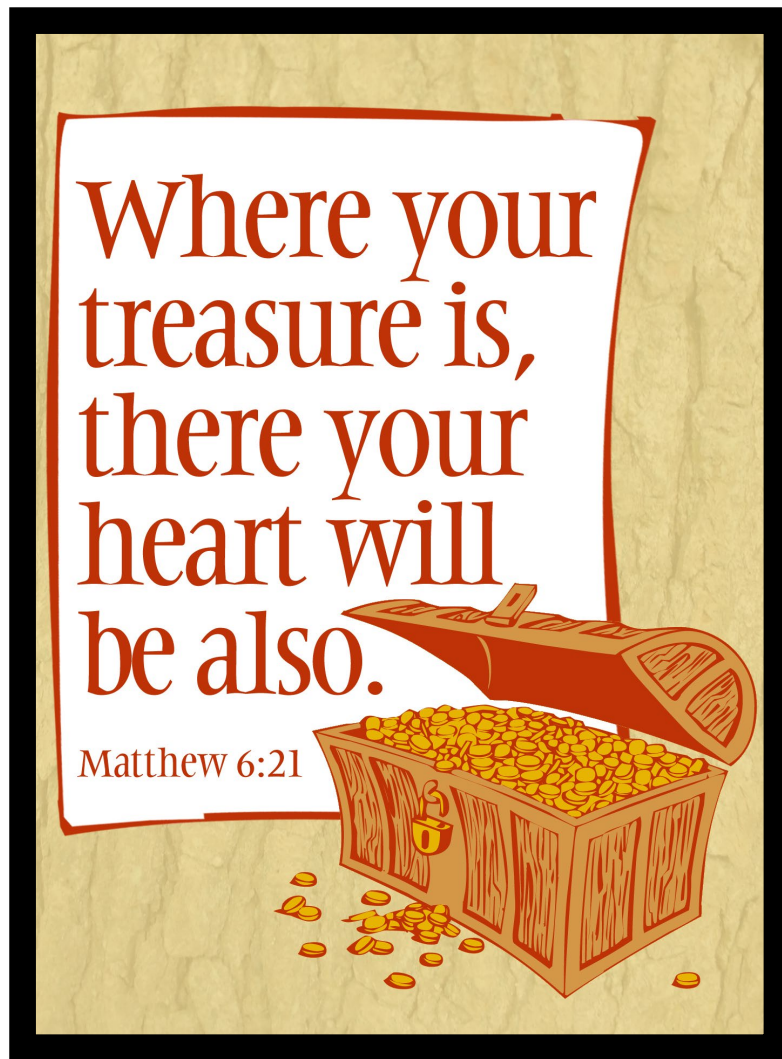


***St. John Lutheran Church & School
Berlin, Wisconsin
The Lutheran Church – Missouri Synod***



**The 7th Sunday after Pentecost
July 9 and 12, 2026**

Large Print Bulletin

As We Gather... Any gardener will admit they have seen certain plants flourish while others fail. The plants don't get a choice in the matter. A plant cannot affect the amount of sunlight, moisture, or attention it receives. It simply grows the way it was designed to. You have been planted by the Lord in His garden. You have seen the light of His Gospel, been watered in Baptism, and been nourished by heaven's food. You have been designed to flourish! A pear tree doesn't grow pumpkins, and neither do the redeemed fall back into fear or slavery. You are the harvest of the Lord. We grow to His glory.

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

577 Almighty God, Your Word Is Cast

**1 Almighty God, Your Word is cast
Like seed into the ground;
Now let the dew of heav'n descend
And righteous fruits abound.**

**2 Let not the sly satanic foe
This holy seed remove,
But give it root in ev'ry heart
To bring forth fruits of love.**

**3 Let not the world's deceitful cares
The rising plant destroy,
But let it yield a hundredfold
The fruits of peace and joy.**

**4 So when the precious seed is sown,
Life-giving grace bestow
That all whose souls the truth receive
Its saving pow'r may know.**

Text: John Cawood, 1775–1852, 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 Our help is in the name of the Lord,
C who made heaven and earth.

P If You, O Lord, kept a record of sins, O Lord, who could stand?

C But with You there is forgiveness; therefore You are feared.

P Since we are gathered to hear God's Word, call upon Him in prayer and praise, and receive the body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ in the fellowship of this altar, let us first consider our unworthiness and confess before God and one another that we have sinned in thought, word, and deed, and that we cannot free ourselves from our sinful condition. Together as His people let us take refuge in the infinite mercy of God, our heavenly Father, seeking His grace for the sake of Christ, and saying: God, be merciful to me, a sinner.

C Almighty God, have mercy upon us, forgive us our sins, and lead us to everlasting life. 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 103:15–19; antiphon: v. 8

The LORD is merciful and gracious,
slow to anger and abounding in steadfast love.

As for man, his days are like grass;

he flourishes like a flower of the field;

for the wind passes over it, and it is gone,
and its place knows it no more.

But the steadfast love of the LORD is from everlasting to everlasting on those who fear him, and his righteousness to children's children,

to those who keep his covenant
and remember to do his commandments.

**The LORD has established his throne in the heavens,
and his kingdom rules over all.**

**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.**

The LORD is merciful and gracious,
slow to anger and abounding in steadfast love.

Kyrie

LSB 204

**C Lord, have mercy;
Christ, have mercy;
Lord, have mercy.**

Gloria in Excelsis *LSB 204*

**C 1 To God on high be glory
And peace to all the earth;
Goodwill from God in heaven**

**Proclaimed at Jesus' birth!
We praise and bless You, Father;
Your holy name, we sing—
Our thanks for Your great glory,
Lord God, our heav'nly King.**

**2 To You, O sole-begotten,
The Father's Son, we pray;
O Lamb of God, our Savior,
You take our sins away.
Have mercy on us, Jesus;
Receive our heartfelt cry,
Where You in pow'r are seated
At God's right hand on high—**

**3 For You alone are holy;
You only are the Lord.
Forever and forever,
Be worshiped and adored;
You with the Holy Spirit
Alone are Lord Most High,
In God the Father's glory.
"Amen!" our glad reply.**

Text: Stephen P. Starke

Salutation and Collect of the Day

P The Lord be with you.

C And also with you.

P Let us pray.

Blessed Lord, since You have caused all Holy Scriptures to be written for our learning, grant that we may so hear them, read, mark, learn, and inwardly digest them that we may embrace and ever hold fast the blessed hope of everlasting life; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C Amen.

Sit

Old Testament Reading

Psalm 119:35–40

³⁵Lead me in the path of your commandments,
for I delight in it.

³⁶Incline my heart to your testimonies,
and not to selfish gain!

³⁷Turn my eyes from looking at worthless things;
and give me life in your ways.

³⁸Confirm to your servant your promise,
that you may be feared.

³⁹Turn away the reproach that I dread,
for your just decrees are good.

⁴⁰Behold, I long for your precepts;
in your righteousness give me life!

P This is the Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

Epistle

1 Timothy 6:6–10

⁶Now there is great gain in godliness with contentment, ⁷for we brought nothing into the world, and we cannot take anything out of the world. ⁸But if we have food and clothing, with these we will be content. ⁹But those who desire to be rich fall into temptation, into a snare, into many senseless and harmful desires that plunge people into ruin and destruction. ¹⁰For the love of money is a root of all kinds of evils. It is through this craving that some have wandered away from the faith and pierced themselves with many pangs.

P This is the Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

Stand

Alleluia and Verse *LSB 156*

C Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.

These things are written that you may believe that Jesus is the Christ, the Son of God.

Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.

Holy Gospel

Matthew 6:22–24

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

C Glory to You, O Lord.

²²"The eye is the lamp of the body. So, if your eye is healthy, your whole body will be full of light, ²³but if your eye is bad, your whole body will be full of darkness. If then the light in you is darkness, how great is the darkness!

²⁴"No one can serve two masters, for either he will hate the one and love the other, or he will be devoted to the one and despise the other. You cannot serve God and money.

P This is the Gospel of the Lord.

C Praise to You, 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

584 Faith and Truth and Life Bestowing

**1 Faith and truth and life bestowing,
Open now the Scriptures, Lord,
Seed to life eternal sowing,
Scattered on the wind abroad.
Let not hearts, Your Word receiving,
Like a barren field be found,
Choked with thorns and unbelieving,
Shallow earth or stony ground.**

**2 May the Spirit's pow'r unceasing
Bring to life the hidden grain,
Daily in our hearts increasing,
Bearing fruit that shall remain.
So in Scripture, song, and story,
Savior, may Your voice be heard.
Till our eyes behold Your glory
Give us ears to hear Your Word.**

Text: Timothy Dudley-Smith, 1926–2024 Text: © 1997 Hope
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110005513

Sermon

"God or Wealth?"

Stand

Prayer of the Church

Sit

Offering

Service of the Sacrament

Stand

Preface

LSB 208

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 208*

C Holy, holy, holy Lord God of Sabaoth adored;

**Heav'n and earth with full acclaim
shout the glory of Your name.
Sing hosanna in the highest, sing hosanna to the Lord;
Truly blest is He who comes in the name of the Lord!**

Text: Stephen P. Starke

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.**

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."

Pax Domini

P The peace of the Lord be with you always.

C Amen.

Agnus Dei LSB 210

**C 1 O Jesus Christ, true Lamb of God,
You take the sin of the world away;
O Jesus Christ, true Lamb of God,
Have mercy on us, Lord, we pray.**

**2 O Jesus Christ, true Lamb of God,
You take the sin of the world away;
Have mercy on us, Jesus Christ,
And grant us peace, O Lord, we pray.**

Text: Stephen P. Starke

Sit

Distribution Hymns

893 Sing to the Lord of Harvest

**1Sing to the Lord of harvest,
Sing songs of love and praise;
With joyful hearts and voices
Your alleluias raise.
By Him the rolling seasons
In fruitful order move;
Sing to the Lord of harvest
A joyous song of love.**

**2God makes the clouds rain goodness,
The deserts bloom and spring,
The hills leap up in gladness,
The valleys laugh and sing.
God fills them with His fullness,
All things with large increase;
He crowns the year with blessing,
With plenty and with peace.**

**3Bring to this sacred altar
The gifts His goodness gave,
The golden sheaves of harvest,
The souls Christ died to save.
Your hearts lay down before Him
When at His feet you fall,
And with your lives adore Him
Who gave His life for all.**

Text: John S. B. Monsell, 1811–75, alt. Text: Public domain

894 For the Fruits of His Creation

1 For the fruits of His creation,

Thanks be to God.

For His gifts to ev'ry nation,

Thanks be to God.

For the plowing, sowing, reaping,

Silent growth while we are sleeping,

Future needs in earth's safekeeping,

Thanks be to God.

2 In the just reward of labor,

God's will is done.

In the help we give our neighbor,

God's will is done.

In our worldwide task of caring

For the hungry and despairing,

In the harvests we are sharing,

God's will is done.

3 For the harvests of the Spirit,

Thanks be to God.

For the good we all inherit,

Thanks be to God.

For the wonders that astound us,

For the truths that still confound us,

Most of all, that love has found us,

Thanks be to God.

Text: Fred Pratt Green, 1903–2000 Text: © 1970 Hope Publishing Co. Used by permission: LSB Hymn License no. 110005513

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.

Benedicamus

LSB 212

P Let us bless the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

Benediction

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.

921 On What Has Now Been Sown

On what has now been sown

Thy blessing, Lord, bestow;

**The pow'r is Thine alone
To make it sprout and grow.
Do Thou in grace the harvest raise,
And Thou alone shalt have the praise!**

**2 To Thee our wants are known,
From Thee are all our pow'rs;
Accept what is Thine own
And pardon what is ours.
Our praises, Lord, and prayers receive,
And to Thy Word a blessing give.**

**3 O grant that each of us,
Now met before Thee here,
May meet together thus
When Thou and Thine appear
And follow Thee to heav'n, our home.
E'en so, amen, Lord Jesus, come!**

Text: John Newton, 1725–1807, alt. Text: Public domain

Acknowledgments

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Attendance Last Week: 187

General giving last week: \$13,211.00

Budget giving needed: \$ 7,500.00

Calendar of Activities this week at St. John

13 Monday Trustee Meeting 6:30 pm

14 Tuesday Elder Meeting 6:30 pm

16 Thursday Worship Service/HC 6:30 pm

19 Sunday Worship Service/HC 9:00 am

19 Sunday Worship in the Park and Church Picnic

Starts 10:30 am

 LEMONADE STAND!

Come cool off with a refreshing cup of lemonade and get yourself some delicious treats.

Date: August 5th, 2026. Time: 10:30 - 1:30

Every cup goes towards the school roof project's small overage.

Bring your family, friends, and neighbors—we'd love to see you!

LCMS VENEZUELA RELIEF EFFORTS: If you would like to support disaster relief efforts following the Venezuela earthquake through a trusted entity, you can give through LCMS Disaster Relief at: lcms.org/give/earthquake.

DISHES LEFT BEHIND: Ladies Aid is very thankful for those who brought a dish to pass to various events. Some of those dishes get

left behind. They are now located on the counter in the Card Room. Please take a look to see if dishes or containers belong to you. Items not claimed will be donated to Second Time Around Shop. Thank you.

MEN'S OPEN GYM: Our Men's Open Gyms will move to every Wednesday at 5:30 PM (instead of every other week). We are currently playing basketball and will have other competitive activities like spikeball and dodgeball. If you'd like to join, please text 920-658-3029 to be added to the group chat for updates and reminders.

MEN'S MINISTRY – JULY & AUGUST: The Men's Ministry will meet at Knuth Brewing in Ripon on Wednesday, July 15th at 6 pm. In August, we'll return to the first Monday of the month. We'll have a golf outing on Monday, August 3rd in Green Lake on HWY 23. Please invite other men and bring your best drive!

SIGN-UP SHEETS FOR VBS FOOD AND OTHER SUPPLIES: There are sign-up sheets on both round tables in the Narthex. We are looking for various food items and other things like paper plates. Please take a look and see if there is something you might be able to bring to help us. Thank You!

ST JOHN LUTHERAN SUMMER VBS – JULY 25 | 9:00 AM–3:00 PM: Join us for Magnified VBS on July 25 from 9:00 AM–3:00 PM! All children ages 3 years old through 5th grade are invited for a day packed with Bible adventures, games, crafts, music, snacks, and fun as we take a closer look at God's amazing love and care for us.

This year's theme, Magnified, encourages kids to discover the greatness of God in the smallest details of His creation and in our everyday lives. Through the story of Nicodemus, children will learn about being born again and the gift of salvation through Jesus. We'll also explore Matthew 6:25–34, where Jesus teaches that we do not need to worry because God lovingly cares for us and provides for our needs, just as He cares for the birds of the air and the flowers of the field.

Invite your friends and join us for an unforgettable day of faith, fun, and discovery! As we magnify the greatness of God together!

UPDATING PERSONAL INFORMATION: For many in our congregation, the information we have about you in our church software is out of date. So, in your mailbox you'll find an instruction sheet along with a printout of the current data we have. Please follow the instructions to help us get your correct information. Thank you in advance!

RAFFLE FUNDRAISER: St John Lutheran School is hosting a raffle for a brand-new speed queen washer and dryer to help fund the new school roof. The winner will be drawn on July 19th. Tickets are 1 for \$30.00; 2 for \$50.00; 3 for \$75.00; 4 for \$100.00. Tickets may be purchased at any of the following locations during their operational hours: St John Lutheran School; Berlin Thrivent Office; Country Inn; Misty's; Ron's Trail Inn, Waukau; Jeff's; Bucky's ; Kitz and Pfeil; Bosquez Chiropractic Office; and Matriculas' On Broadway

CHURCH PICNIC - JULY 19! Please join us for our church picnic! We'll have a 10:30 service at the north shelter house followed by a potluck lunch (please bring a dish to pass) and activities for all ages including giant blow-up activities for kids, a cornhole tournament, a washer toss tournament, and BINGO. We'll still have a 9:00 service at church that morning if you're unable to make the picnic. Please invite friends and relatives!

Sermon Notes – 7-12-26 – God or Wealth?

-“No one can serve two masters, for either he will hate the one and love the other, or he will be devoted to the one and despise the other. You cannot serve _____ and _____.” (Matthew 6:24)

-You can't serve both God and wealth/the devil because the two are directly in _____ with each other. Serving one always means harming the other.

-“The eye is the lamp of the body. So, if your eye is healthy, your whole body will be full of light, but if your eye is bad, your whole body will be full of darkness. If then the light in you is darkness, how great is the darkness!” (Matthew 6:22-23)

-Your eyes will look to, long for, and lead you toward something. If they focus on worldly things, you'll be full of darkness, but if they _____ focus on God, then you'll be full of light.

-These words “strike like the hammer on the conscience of every believer, for at all times there is need for us to examine our

priorities and discern again how we have fallen short of Jesus' calling for our lives."

-Haven't we so often focused on and served _____ and thus advanced the devil's kingdom while harming God's?

-Why do we so often fail to serve God, focus on mammon, and serve the devil instead?

-“When the days drew near for him to be taken up, Jesus set his face to go to Jerusalem.” (Luke 9:51)

-God is so gracious! He knew we wouldn't single-mindedly devote ourselves to him; he knew at times we would serve the devil. But, instead of letting us suffer in hell like we would have, he single-mindedly _____ himself to us; he served us. And he rescued us by receiving our punishments, dying our deaths, and _____ our sins.