

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

Jesus Calms the Storm

IN FEAR AND AMAZEMENT [HIS DISCIPLES]
ASKED ONE ANOTHER, "WHO IS THIS?
HE COMMANDS EVEN THE WINDS AND THE WATER,
AND THEY OBEY HIM."

LUKE 8:25, NIV

**The 17th Sunday after Pentecost
September 17 and 20, 2026**

Large Print Bulletin

AS WE GATHER... In our minds, justice seems strong while mercy appears weak. In reality, mercy is stronger than justice and greater in every way. While justice may seem appealing to us, what we seek from God is not fairness or equity but mercy. Mercy is what must be taught to our sinful hearts, and for this reason, it remains the higher or greater path. Justice we can understand and reason, but mercy requires God to become flesh in His Son, to suffer and die as the Innocent One for our sins, and to rise to bestow upon us grace and mercy we neither earned nor deserve. Such mercy is a scandal to us and can often be an offense to those who do not realize the magnitude of its gift. Today, we ask the Lord to open our eyes so that we may acknowledge and rejoice in His great gift of mercy and pardon in Christ and walk worthy of this grace every day.

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

649 Blest Be the Tie That Binds

1 Blest be the tie that binds

Our hearts in Christian love;

**The fellowship of kindred minds
Is like to that above.**

**2 Before our Father's throne
We pour our ardent prayers;
Our fears, our hopes, our aims are one,
Our comforts and our cares.**

**3 We share our mutual woes,
Our mutual burdens bear,
And often for each other flows
The sympathizing tear.**

**4 When here our pathways part,
We suffer bitter pain;
Yet, one in Christ and one in heart,
We hope to meet again.**

**5 From sorrow, toil, and pain,
And sin we shall be free
And perfect love and friendship reign
Through all eternity.**

Text: John Fawcett, 1740–1817, 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 Beloved in the Lord! Let us draw near with a true heart and confess our sins unto God our Father, beseeching Him in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ to grant us forgiveness.

P Our help is in the name of the Lord,
C who made heaven and earth.

P I said, I will confess my transgressions unto the Lord,
C and You forgave the iniquity of my sin.

Silence for reflection on God's Word and for self-examination.

P O almighty God, merciful Father,
C I, a poor, miserable sinner, confess unto You all my sins and iniquities with which I have ever offended You and justly deserved Your temporal and eternal punishment. But I am heartily sorry for them and sincerely repent of them, and I pray You of Your boundless mercy and for the sake of the holy, innocent, bitter sufferings and death of Your beloved Son, Jesus Christ, to be gracious and merciful to me, a poor, sinful being.

P Upon this your confession, I, by virtue of my office, as a called and ordained servant of the Word, announce the grace of God unto all of you, and in the stead and by the command of my Lord Jesus

Christ I 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 116:12–13, 15–16; antiphon: v. 17

I will offer to you the sacrifice of thanksgiving
and call on the name of the LORD.

What shall I render to the LORD for all his benefits to me?

I will lift up the cup of salvation and call on the name of the LORD.

Precious in the sight of the LORD is the death of his saints.

O LORD, I am your servant; I am your servant, the son of your
maidservant. You have loosed my bonds.

**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.**

I will offer to you the sacrifice of thanksgiving
and call on the name of the LORD.

Kyrie *LSB 186*

C Lord, have mercy upon us.

Christ, have mercy upon us.

Lord, have mercy upon us.

Salutation and Collect of the Day

P The Lord be with you.

C And with thy spirit.

P Let us pray.

Lord God, heavenly Father, since we cannot stand before You relying on anything we have done, help us trust in Your abiding grace and live according to Your Word; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

CAmen.

Sit

If you are worshipping on Thursday Night, please note that the Scripture readings are not printed here or on the Power Point. Pastor Busse will read Scripture from the podium.

Old Testament Reading (Sunday)

Job 38:1–11

¹Then the LORD answered Job out of the whirlwind and said:

²"Who is this that darkens counsel by words without knowledge?

³Dress for action like a man;

I will question you, and you make it known to me.

⁴"Where were you when I laid the foundation of the earth?

Tell me, if you have understanding.

⁵Who determined its measurements—surely you know!

Or who stretched the line upon it?

⁶On what were its bases sunk,

or who laid its cornerstone,

⁷when the morning stars sang together
and all the sons of God shouted for joy?
⁸"Or who shut in the sea with doors
when it burst out from the womb,
⁹when I made clouds its garment
and thick darkness its swaddling band,
¹⁰and prescribed limits for it
and set bars and doors,
¹¹and said, 'Thus far shall you come, and no farther,
and here shall your proud waves be stayed'?"

P This is the Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

Epistle (Sunday)

Colossians 1:15–19

¹⁵He is the image of the invisible God, the firstborn of all creation.
¹⁶For by him all things were created, in heaven and on earth, visible and invisible, whether thrones or dominions or rulers or authorities—all things were created through him and for him.
¹⁷And he is before all things, and in him all things hold together.
¹⁸And he is the head of the body, the church. He is the beginning, the firstborn from the dead, that in everything he might be preeminent. ¹⁹For in him all the fullness of God was pleased to dwell,

P This is the Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

Stand

Alleluia

LSB 190

C Alleluia. Alleluia. Alleluia.

Holy Gospel (Sunday)

Matthew 8:23–27

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

C Glory be to Thee, O Lord.

²³When [Jesus] got into the boat, his disciples followed him. ²⁴And behold, there arose a great storm on the sea, so that the boat was being swamped by the waves; but he was asleep. ²⁵And they went and woke him, saying, "Save us, Lord; we are perishing."

²⁶And he said to them, "Why are you afraid, O you of little faith?" Then he rose and rebuked the winds and the sea, and there was a great calm. ²⁷And the men marveled, saying, "What sort of man is this, that even winds and sea obey him?"

P This is the Gospel of the Lord.

C Praise be to Thee, O Christ.

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.**

Children's Sermon

664 Fight the Good Fight

- 1 Fight the good fight with all your might;
Christ is your strength, and Christ your right.
Lay hold on life, and it shall be
Your joy and crown eternally.**
- 2 Run the straight race through God's good grace;
Lift up your eyes, and seek His face.
Life with its way before us lies;
Christ is the path, and Christ the prize.**
- 3 Cast care aside, lean on your guide;
His boundless mercy will provide.
Trust, and enduring faith shall prove
Christ is your life and Christ your love.**
- 4 Faint not nor fear, His arms are near;
He changes not who holds you dear;
Only believe, and you will see
That Christ is all eternally.**

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

**Sermon Thursday
Sunday Sermon**

**Pastor Busse
Pastor Schrader**

"What Sort of Man is This?"

Offering

Stand

Prayer of the Church

Service of the Sacrament

Preface

LSB 194

P The Lord be with you.

C And with thy spirit.

P Lift up your hearts.

C We lift them up unto the Lord.

P Let us give thanks unto the Lord, our God.

C It is meet and right so to do.

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 195*

**C Holy, holy, holy Lord God of Sabaoth;
heav'n and earth are full of Thy glory.**

Hosanna, hosanna, hosanna in the highest.

Blessed is He, blessed is He,

blessed is He that cometh in the name of the Lord.

Hosanna, hosanna, hosanna in the highest.

Lord's Prayer

LSB 196

ALL 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

LSB 197

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 *LSB 197*

P The peace of the Lord be with you always.
C Amen.

Agnus Dei *LSB 198*

C O Christ, Thou Lamb of God, that takest away the sin of the world, have mercy upon us.

O Christ, Thou Lamb of God, that takest away the sin of the world, have mercy upon us.

O Christ, Thou Lamb of God, that takest away the sin of the world, grant us Thy peace. Amen.

Distribution Hymns

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

684 Come unto Me, Ye Weary

**1 "Come unto Me, ye weary,
And I will give you rest."
O blessèd voice of Jesus,
Which comes to hearts oppressed!
It tells of benediction,
Of pardon, grace, and peace,
Of joy that hath no ending,
Of love that cannot cease.**

**2 "Come unto Me, ye wand'ers,
And I will give you light."
O loving voice of Jesus,
Which comes to cheer the night!
Our hearts were filled with sadness,**

**And we had lost our way;
But Thou hast brought us gladness
And songs at break of day.**

**3 “Come unto Me, ye fainting,
And I will give you life.”
O cheering voice of Jesus,
Which comes to aid our strife!
The foe is stern and eager,
The fight is fierce and long;
But Thou hast made us mighty
And stronger than the strong.**

**4 “And whosoever cometh,
I will not cast him out.”
O patient love of Jesus,
Which drives away our doubt,
Which, though we be unworthy
Of love so great and free,
Invites us very sinners
To come, dear Lord, to Thee!**

Text: William C. Dix, 1837–98, alt. Text: Public domain

Stand

Nunc Dimittis *LSB 199*

**C Lord, now lettest Thou Thy servant depart in peace according
to Thy word,**

**for mine eyes have seen Thy salvation, which Thou hast
prepared before the face of all people,
a light to lighten the Gentiles
and the glory of Thy people Israel.
Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Ghost;
as it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be, world
without end. Amen.**

Post-Communion Collect

P: 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

P The Lord be with you.

C And with thy spirit.

Benedicamus

LSB 202

P Bless we the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

Benediction

LSB 202

P The Lord bless you and keep you.

The Lord make His face shine upon you
and be gracious unto you.

The Lord lift up His countenance upon you and + give you peace.

C Amen, amen, amen.

783 Take My Life and Let It Be

- 1 Take my life and let it be
Consecrated, Lord, to Thee;
Take my moments and my days,
Let them flow in ceaseless praise.**
- 2 Take my hands and let them move
At the impulse of Thy love;
Take my feet and let them be
Swift and beautiful for Thee.**
- 3 Take my voice and let me sing
Always, only for my King;
Take my lips and let them be
Filled with messages from Thee.**
- 4 Take my silver and my gold,
Not a mite would I withhold;
Take my intellect and use
Ev'ry pow'r as Thou shalt choose.**
- 5 Take my will and make it Thine,
It shall be no longer mine;
Take my heart, it is Thine own,
It shall be Thy royal throne.**

**6 Take my love, my Lord, I pour
At Thy feet its treasure store;
Take myself, and I will be
Ever, only, all for Thee.**

Text: Frances R. Havergal, 1836–79 Text: Public domain

Acknowledgments

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Calendar of Activities this week at St. John

22 Tuesday	Christmas VBS Planning Meeting	4:30 pm
23 Wednesday	Council Meeting	6:00 pm
23 Wednesday	New Member Class	6:00 – 7:30 pm
24 Thursday	Worship/HC	6:30 pm
26 Saturday	Donkey Baseball	1:00 pm start
20 Sunday	Worship/HC	9:00 am
20 Sunday	Sunday School	10:30 am
20 Sunday	Adult Bible Class	10:30 am

FALL WORK WEEKEND AT CAMP LUWISOM: Join the fun at Camp LuWiSoMo for their annual fall work weekend October 9 – 11. This is a great volunteer opportunity for individuals and families. Housing

and meals provided free of charge. Contact Camp LuWiSoMo at 920-622-3350 for more information.

SUNDAY IN SUNDAY SCHOOL we will learn about "the Faith-Full Friends." The Bible tells us David and Jonathan were such close friends that "the soul of Jonathan was knit to the soul of David (1 Samuel 18:1). Saul's insane jealousy of David tests their friendship to the limit. David and Jonathan establish a plan to alert David if Saul continues to seek his life. Sadly, Saul's anger remains unchecked. Jonathan, faithful to God's will, warns David to flee from the king.

Interested in Joining St. John Lutheran Church?

Our Fall Membership Class begins Wednesday, September 23, and meets weekly from 6:00–7:30 p.m. through November 11. If you have questions about the class, please see Pastor Rob. If you would like to join to learn more about the Christian faith and St. John, please contact the church office at 920-361-9935 or church@stjohnberlin.org by September 21.

KEEP THE BELLS RINGING! We are looking for someone to lead our Handbell Choir and help continue this meaningful music ministry. The ideal person would have a strong knowledge of handbells, including ringing techniques, music selection, directing rehearsals, and preparing the choir to participate in worship services throughout the year. If you are interested or would like additional information, please contact the church office or Pastor Rob.

SHARE YOUR MUSICAL GIFTS! Do you enjoy singing or playing an instrument? We are always looking for musicians and vocalists to assist with worship services, as well as participants for special Christmas and Easter choirs. If you would like to be involved, please contact the church office. Your talents can help lead our congregation in worship and give glory to God.

OPENINGS ON BOARD OF EDUCATION: The St. John Board of Christian Education will have two positions opening in January 2027. Board members serve three-year terms, and all candidates must be members of St. John Lutheran Church. If you would like more information or are interested in running for the board, please contact Miss Linse or any current member of the Board of Christian Education.

PLANNING TO USE SCHOOL FACILITIES? As the new school year begins on September 1, please note that a facility calendar has been posted in the Card Room. This calendar provides information on room availability and includes instructions for reserving school space. For additional information or assistance, please reach out to the school office.

VOLUNTEER ATHLETIC DIRECTOR: St. John Lutheran School is currently seeking a Volunteer Athletic Director. If you are interested in this opportunity, please contact Miss Linse by email or phone:

Email: m.linse@stjohnberlin.org **Phone:** 920-946-8835

Thank you for taking the time to consider this opportunity and for your support of St. John Lutheran School.

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.

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!

CHRISTMAS VBS PLANNING MEETING

Are you interested in helping make this year's Christmas VBS a meaningful and memorable experience for our children? We invite all volunteers, parents, and anyone interested in assisting with Christmas VBS to join us for a planning meeting. **Date: Tuesday, September 22. Time: 4:30 p.m. Location: St. John Church.**

We will discuss themes, activities, music, decorations, volunteers, and other plans for this year's Christmas VBS program. Whether you have helped in the past or are interested in getting involved for the first time, your ideas and assistance are welcome.

Please join us as we begin preparing to share the message of Christ's birth with the children and families of our congregation and community. We look forward to seeing you there! Thank you!

NEW BIBLE STUDY: THE PURPOSES OF SUFFERING: Starting Sunday, September 6, join us for a three-week study on suffering — why God allows it, and what He's doing through it. We'll walk through the biblical purposes behind our hardest seasons, and how Christ, who suffered with us and for us, meets us in ours. Join us in the church basement after the Sunday service - all are welcome!

PLASTIC BAG COLLECTION TO BE DISCONTINUED: Thank you to everyone that recycled plastic for St. John Church and School (and the Second Time Around Shop). We received three composite decking benches (one for each location) through your donations. St. John donated over 3,500 lbs. of plastic. We are truly thankful for your efforts because this plastic did not go into our landfills or waterways.

The Trex Company, Inc. has changed their recycling program and discontinued the free composite decking bench.

St. John Church and School will NO longer collect plastic, effective September 30, 2026.

Have you ever wanted to play baseball riding a donkey? We are looking for 20-26 participants 16 years or older and under 225lb to make up two teams for our Donkey Baseball game on Saturday, September 26th. Please reach out to Jennifer Billington for a consent form. The game starts at 1pm but participants need to arrive by noon. Everyone is welcome to attend, tickets are available in the school and church office and after church on Sundays.



JOIN the FUN...
COME to

DONKEY BASEBALL

DATE: **September 26, 2026**

TIME: **1:00pm**

PLACE: **Riverside Park, South Diamond**

TICKETS AVAILABLE AT:

St. John School and Church offices
or SCAN this QR code to order tickets

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Sermon Notes – 9-27-26 – What Sort of Man Is This?

-“And when he got into the boat, his disciples _____ him.”
(Matthew 8:23)

-The disciples knew Jesus was special, and even though there was a great cost, they knew he was still worth following.

-“They went and woke Jesus, saying, “Save us, Lord; we are perishing!” (Matthew 8:25)

-“And he said to them, “Why are you afraid, O you of little _____?” (Matthew 8:26)

-“He rose and rebuked the winds and the sea, and there was a great calm.” (Matthew 8:26)

-“And the men marveled, saying, ‘What sort of man is this, that even the wind and sea obey him?’” (Matthew 8:27)

-This man before them just did something only _____ does.

-“What sort of man is this?” He’s certainly, 100% a man, but they just found out that he’s certainly, 100% God, too.

-So often, couldn’t Jesus say the same thing to ____ that he said to his disciples, “Why are you afraid, O you of little faith?”

-In our fears, we should also ask: “What sort of man is this?” And remember that _____ isn’t only a man, he’s also God.

-In our fears, we have even more reason to trust that God is with us and that nothing will possibly harm us that God doesn’t want to harm us.

-We first have to look to the cross.

-Second, we have to look to his _____.

-Jesus Christ loves us so much that he died on the cross to forgive us, and he’s so powerful that he overcame death and came back life – therefore, we don’t have to be _____.

-Following Jesus can be scary, but we shouldn’t be afraid because following Jesus to the most dangerous place on earth is far safer than being in the safest place without him.

-The disciples were afraid in the storm, but by the end of their lives, they all fearlessly faced suffering and death. What changed is that, as they continued following Jesus, the Holy Spirit convinced them of his death and resurrection and their _____ grew.