

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



**The 19th Sunday after Pentecost
October 1 and 4, 2026**

Large Print Bulletin

As We Gather...

This year's theme: *As Lutheran Women in Mission, we joyfully proclaim Christ, support missions, and equip women to honor God by serving others.* Christ Jesus our Lord asks us to be wise stewards of His good gifts. St. Paul, while proclaiming the Gospel, was also concerned for those who suffered. There were so many mission efforts taking place. As believers today, we also are eager to follow the example of Christ and aid those in need. The Spirit of God places that eagerness to serve upon our hearts. We can't be everywhere to aid the missions, firsthand, that are set before us. The Lord does allow us to support those efforts that go forth in His name. May the Lord grant to us supportive hearts.

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.

PREPARATION

827 Hark, the Voice of Jesus Calling

**1 Hark, the voice of Jesus calling,
 "Who will go and work today?
Fields are white and harvests waiting—
 Who will bear the sheaves away?"
Loud and long the Master calleth;**

**Rich reward He offers thee.
Who will answer, gladly saying,
“Here am I, send me, send me”?**

**2 Some take up His task in morning,
To their Lord responding soon;
Some are called in heat of midday,
Others late in afternoon;
Even as the sun is setting,
Some are sent into the fields,
There to gather in the bounty
That God’s Word so richly yields.**

**3 For as rain and snow from heaven
Water seeds in dusty soil,
Causing them to bud and flower,
Giving bread to those who toil;
So the Lord sends forth His promise,
Words of life and joy and peace—
Never void to Him returning,
Bearing fruit with great increase.**

**4 Harken to the Lord whose coming
Marks the time when grace shall end,
When with His angelic reapers
He in glory shall descend.
Soon the night, the final harvest;
Soon the time for work shall cease.**

**Then the souls His grace has garnered
Shall enjoy His Sabbath peace.**

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Invocation

P In the name of the Father and of the + Son and of the Holy Spirit.
C Amen.

Opening Sentences

Psalm 43:4; 124:8; John 3:16

P I will go to the altar of God,
C to God my exceeding joy.

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

P God so loved the world, that He gave His only Son,
C that whoever believes in Him should not perish but have eternal life.

Confession and Absolution *2 Corinthians 5:14–15, adapted from KJV*

P Beloved, "the love of Christ constrains us," because "He died for all, that they which live should not henceforth live unto themselves, but unto Him which died for them, and rose again." For the sake of the miraculous love of God, let us draw near to Him with a true heart and confess our sins and our need for God's love.

C Lord God, heavenly Father, we confess to You that we have sinned against You through our fears and failure to live according to Your will and design. Because our love for You has faltered, so also have we not loved those whom You would have us call our neighbor. So certain are we of our sin that we have even wondered at times how You could still love us. Because of Your merciful invitation alone, we come before You, begging Your forgiveness solely and alone for the sake of the sacrifice of Your Son. O Lord, have mercy on us.

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.

WORD

Kyrie *LSB 204*

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

Salutation

P The Lord be with you.

C And also with you.

Prayer of the Day

P Let us pray.

Gracious God, You gave Your Son into the hands of sinful men who killed Him. Forgive us when we reject Your unfailing love, and grant us the fullness of Your salvation; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C Amen.

Old Testament Reading

Proverbs 18:12–13

¹²Before destruction a man's heart is haughty,
but humility comes before honor.

¹³If one gives an answer before he hears,
it is his folly and shame.

P This is the Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

Epistle

1 Corinthians 9:16–23

¹⁶For if I preach the gospel, that gives me no ground for boasting. For necessity is laid upon me. Woe to me if I do not preach the gospel! ¹⁷For if I do this of my own will, I have a reward, but not of my own will, I am still entrusted with a stewardship. ¹⁸What then is my reward? That in my preaching I may present the gospel free of charge, so as not to make full use of my right in the gospel.

¹⁹For though I am free from all, I have made myself a servant to all, that I might win more of them. ²⁰To the Jews I became as a Jew, in order to win Jews. To those under the law I became as one under the law (though not being myself under the law) that I might win those under the law. ²¹To those outside the law I became as one outside the law (not being outside the law of God but under the

law of Christ) that I might win those outside the law. ²²To the weak I became weak, that I might win the weak. I have become all things to all people, that by all means I might save some. ²³I do it all for the sake of the gospel, that I may share with them in its blessings.

P This is the Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

Holy Gospel

Mark 10:46–52

P The Holy Gospel according to St. Mark, the tenth chapter.

C Glory to You, O Lord.

⁴⁶They came to Jericho. And as [Jesus] was leaving Jericho with his disciples and a great crowd, Bartimaeus, a blind beggar, the son of Timaeus, was sitting by the roadside. ⁴⁷And when he heard that it was Jesus of Nazareth, he began to cry out and say, "Jesus, Son of David, have mercy on me!" ⁴⁸And many rebuked him, telling him to be silent. But he cried out all the more, "Son of David, have mercy on me!" ⁴⁹And Jesus stopped and said, "Call him." And they called the blind man, saying to him, "Take heart. Get up; he is calling you." ⁵⁰And throwing off his cloak, he sprang up and came to Jesus. ⁵¹And Jesus said to him, "What do you want me to do for you?" And the blind man said to him, "Rabbi, let me recover my sight." ⁵²And Jesus said to him, "Go your way; your faith has made you well." And immediately he recovered his sight and followed him on the way.

P This is the Gospel of the Lord.

C Praise to You, O Christ.

Apostles' Creed

Nicene 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

835 On Galilee's High Mountain

**1 On Galilee's high mountain
Christ gave the great command
In words of strength and promise**

**Which all can understand:
“All pow’r to Me is given
To do what I shall choose;
Therefore I send My children,
Their witness I will use.”**

**2 The Lord who, born of Mary,
Came down as man and died,
Who preached to all who listened,
For us was crucified—
This Lord, our living brother,
In pow’r at God’s right hand,
Has chosen us to carry
His truth to ev’ry land.**

**3 His strength within my weakness
Will make me bold to say
How His redeeming power
Transforms my stubborn clay;
His touch of fire ignites me,
With courage I am sent,
My tongue-tied silence broken,
With grace made eloquent.**

**4 And not alone to nations
In faraway retreats,
But ev’rywhere I broadcast
His love through crowded streets:
The lives that my life touches,**

**However great or small—
Let them through me see Jesus,
Who served and saved us all.**

**5 That ev'ryone He chooses,
For reasons of His own,
Will find in Christ his calling
To live His love alone.
His presence always leads us
Till time no more shall be;
Christ's strength, His love, His comfort
Give us His victory.**

**△6 Lord, gather all Your children,
Wherever they may be,
And lead them on to heaven
To live eternally
With You, our loving Father,
And Christ, our brother dear,
Whose Spirit guards and gives us
The joy to persevere.**

Text: Henry L. Lettermann, 1932–96 Text: © 1982 Concordia
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Sermon

“Listening Evangelism 1”

Prayer of the Church

Offering

SACRAMENT

Preface

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

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

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

Distribution Hymns

634 The Death of Jesus Christ, Our Lord

**1 The death of Jesus Christ, our Lord,
We celebrate with one accord;
It is our comfort in distress,
Our heart's sweet joy and happiness.**

**2 He blotted out with His own blood
The judgment that against us stood;
For us He full atonement made,
And all our debt He fully paid.**

- 3 That this forever true shall be
He gives a solemn guarantee:
In this His holy Supper here
We taste His love so sweet, so near.**
- 4 His Word proclaims and we believe
That in this Supper we receive
His very body, as He said,
His very blood for sinners shed.**
- 5 We dare not ask how this can be,
But simply hold the mystery
And trust this word where life begins:
“Given and shed for all your sins.”**
- 6 They who this word do not believe
This food unworthily receive,
Salvation here will never find—
May we this warning keep in mind!**
- 7 But blest is each believing guest
Who in these promises finds rest;
For Jesus shall in love remain
With all who here His grace obtain.**
- 8 Help us sincerely to believe
That we may worthily receive
Your Supper and in You find rest.
Amen! They who believe are blest.**

Text (sts. 1–4, 6–8): Haquin Spegel, 1645–1714; (sts. 1–4, 6–8): tr. Olof Olsson, 1841–1900, alt.; (st. 5): composite Text: Public domain

628 Your Table I Approach

**1 Your table I approach;
Dear Savior, hear my prayer.
Let not an unrepentant heart
Prove hurtful to me there.**

**2 Lord, I confess my sins
And mourn their wretched bands;
A contrite heart is sure to find
Forgiveness at Your hands.**

**3 Your body and Your blood,
Once slain and shed for me,
Are taken at Your table, Lord,
In blest reality.**

**4 Search not how this takes place,
This wondrous mystery;
God can accomplish vastly more
Than what we think could be.**

**5 O grant, most blessed Lord,
That earth and hell combined**

**May not about this sacrament
Raise doubt within my mind.**

**6 Oh, may I never fail
To thank You day and night
For Your true body and true blood,
O God, my peace and light.**

Text: Gerhard Wolter Molanus, 1633–1722; tr. Matthias Loy, 1828–1915, alt. Text: Public domain

Nunc Dimittis *LSB 211*

**C 1 O Lord, now let Your servant
Depart in heav'nly peace,
For I have seen the glory
Of Your redeeming grace:
A light to lead the Gentiles
Unto Your holy hill,
The glory of Your people,
Your chosen Israel.**

**2 All glory to the Father,
All glory to the Son,
All glory to the Spirit,
Forever Three in One;
For as in the beginning,
Is now, shall ever be,
God's triune name resounding
Through all eternity.**

Post-Communion Thanksgiving

P Let us pray.

O God the Father, the fountain and source of all goodness, who in loving-kindness sent Your only-begotten Son into the flesh, we thank You that for His sake You have given us pardon and peace in this Sacrament, and we ask You not to forsake Your children but always to rule our hearts and minds by Your Holy Spirit that we may be enabled constantly to serve You; 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

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.

912 Christ Is Our Cornerstone

**1 Christ is our cornerstone,
On Him alone we build;
With His true saints alone
The courts of heav'n are filled.
On His great love
Our hopes we place**

**Of present grace
And joys above.**

**2 Here may we gain from heav'n
The grace which we implore,
And may that grace, once giv'n,
Be with us evermore
Until that day
When all the blest
To endless rest
Are called away.**

△ **3 Oh, then, with hymns of praise
These hallowed courts shall ring;
Our voices we will raise
The Three in One to sing
And thus proclaim
In joyful song,
Both loud and long,
That glorious name.**

Text: Latin, c. 8th cent.; tr. John Chandler, 1806–76, alt. Text: Public domain

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Sermon Notes – 10-4-26 – Listening Evangelism I

-“For this light momentary affliction is preparing for us an eternal weight of _____ beyond all comparison, as we look not to the things that are seen but to the things that are unseen. For the things that are seen are transient, but the things that are unseen are eternal.” (2 Corinthians 4:17-18)

-Since the Gospel is so good, shouldn’t we share it?

-This month – Evangelism Month – we’re going to learn that one powerful way to evangelize begins with something we can all do: _____.

-“If one gives an answer before he hears, it is his folly and shame.” (Proverbs 18:13)

-Listening Evangelism builds relationships by listening to people to understand what’s going on in their lives and then lovingly telling them how _____ can help.

-The first lesson in Listening Evangelism is that we LISTEN _____ those in need.

-Keep your ears open; keep your eyes peeled. Even if they’re not directly saying it, who’s calling out for help? Who looks like they’re in need?

-The second lesson in Listening Evangelism is that we LISTEN ____ those in need.

-Ask them questions: "How are you doing today?" "You look a little down, is everything okay?" And show that you genuinely care by genuinely listening.

-The third lesson in Listening Evangelism is that after listening, we ____ people about Jesus' healing.

-Because the Holy Spirit will also be helping, I really believe that through Listening Evangelism you're capable of telling people the Good News that if they trust in Jesus then they have ____ because in heaven all their pain will be forever healed by Jesus.

-When you've first listened to person and shown them that you care, they're far more likely to listen to you when you tell them about Jesus' healing.

-By listening first, you know what their struggling with so you can share about how Jesus will ____ that struggle.

Calendar of Activities this week at St. John

8 Thursday	Worship/HC	6:30 pm
11 Sunday	Worship/HC	9:00 am
11 Sunday	Sunday School	10:30 am
11 Sunday	Bible Class	10:30 am

PIZZA SALE: The 7th and 8th grade students will be selling frozen pizzas from Joe's in Wautoma to raise money for their class trip to Catalina Island in the spring. Someone will be in the back of church on Sunday, October 11th and October 18th if you would like to place

an order, otherwise you are welcome to call the school. The pizzas will be delivered on Thursday, November 5th.

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.

TODAY IN SUNDAY SCHOOL: In this week's lesson, "The Wise King", when God invites Solomon to ask for what he desires most, Solomon prays for wisdom to carefully lead the people. Pleased with his selflessness, God grants Solomon great wealth and honor in addition to his desired wisdom. Solomon wrote and collected many of the wisdom writings that make up the Book of Proverbs.

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.

ST. JOHN CHOIR STARTUP: The Lord has blessed St. John's with many beautiful voices, and we would love for you to use your talents to praise Him in song!

We are excited to restart our Adult Choir, open to anyone in high school or older. We will begin with a limited rehearsal and

performance schedule, and the music will be accessible and enjoyable for a wide range of skill levels.

Can't attend every rehearsal? No problem! Join us whenever you are able. Practice recordings will also be provided so you can rehearse at home.

The choir will sing during:

- **November 1 – Reformation/All Saints' Worship Service**
- **December 24 – Christmas Eve Worship (second service only)**

Rehearsals:

Following the 6:30 p.m. worship service, 7:15–8:00 p.m.

- **Thursday, October 15, 22 and 29**
- **Wednesday, December 2, 9 and 16**

Interested in singing or joining the email list? Contact Amanda Tetzlaff at mandabusse@gmail.com or 920-229-1205. We hope you'll consider joining us as we lift our voices together in praise!

SAVE THE DATE! THE GARMS FAMILY CHRISTMAS CONCERT: A NIGHT OF COMFORT AND JOY: Friday, December 11, 2026, at 6:30 p.m. Join us for an uplifting evening of Christmas music and celebration as The Garms Family shares the comfort and joy of our Savior's birth through song. Invite your family and friends!

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.

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.

Become a Pen Pal for Our Students!

Are you interested in having a pen pal? Our school students write letters to our members, and you can respond. If you have done this project in the past, you will see a yellow letter in your mailbox. If you are new to our church or want to become involved this year, please let me know. I need all responses by October 5th. We have more students enrolled in our school so I will need new volunteers. Thanks for considering this. Please contact Amy Brooks at 920-789-9385 or amybrooksy1012@gmail.com.

Trip to the Ark Encounter

Our sister congregation, **Zion Lutheran Church in Neshkoro**, is organizing a Diamond Tours trip to the Ark Encounter and other attractions **April 12-16, 2027**. Members of St. John are invited to join this exciting trip. If you would like more information, please contact the church office and we will provide you with the tour flyer.

Can You Help with Our Christmas Parade Float?

The Parent Teacher League is looking for volunteers to help make this year's Christmas Parade Float a success! Our theme is **Old-Fashioned Christmas**, and we're looking for:

- A truck and trailer for the parade
- A place to store the trailer after it has been decorated
- Someone willing to lead or coordinate the decorating effort
- Volunteers with decorating skills or creative ideas

If you can provide any of these resources or would like to volunteer, **please contact Pastor Rob**. Your help will make it possible for St. John to participate in the parade and share the joy of Christmas with our community. Thank you for considering how you can help!

Christmas VBS Planning Continues

– Join Us September 30!

Our Christmas VBS planning is off to a great start! Thank you to everyone who attended our meeting on September 22. As we continue preparing, we are looking for more volunteers to join the team. Our next planning meeting will be on **September 30 at 6:30**

p.m. at church as we continue making plans for a memorable Christmas VBS!

3v3 Hoops for Hunger Challenge Returns!

The 3v3 Hoops for Hunger Challenge is back for its second year, and it's shaping up to be bigger, better, and more exciting than ever! **Save the dates: February 13** at the Boys & Girls Club and **February 27** at St. John Lutheran School. More details, registration information, and ways to get involved will be coming soon, so stay tuned!

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!



National LWML Women in Mission Sunday is October 4. This year's theme continues a four-year cycle focusing on the LWML Mission Statement — *As Lutheran Women in Mission, we joyfully proclaim Christ, support missions, and equip women to honor God by serving others.* For Lutheran Women in Mission Sunday 2026, we focus on **Supporting Missions**. Each Sunday in October, you will find a bulletin insert of a mission grant currently being funded through LWML Women in Mission with your mites. Thank you for your continued support.

Please note there are purple pens and colored pencils, along with adult and children's mite boxes on the small table in the narthex. Help yourself to what you can use.