

Sunday, August 30, 2026
Fourteenth Sunday After Pentecost



Then Jesus told his disciples, "If anyone would come after me, let him deny himself and take up his cross and follow me..."

Matthew 16:24

Special Welcome To Those With Young Children

We are very happy that you are here today! At St. John we want you to feel at home.

- First, please relax and enjoy your time here. Jesus knows that children tend to wiggle and squawk a bit, so please don't feel embarrassed by it. Your children are welcome at St. John.
- To make it a bit easier on your family, please dare to sit toward the front where your children can easily watch the pastor, note the colors, hear the bells, see the fire, and wonder about the stained-glass windows of the Lord's Prayer and the Sacraments of Holy Baptism and the Lord's Supper. What Jesus does here promises to engage them.
- As we go, softly explain the Liturgy to your children, encouraging them to chime in on their parts: *Amen! Lord have mercy! And with your spirit! I believe! Our Father!* All of that belongs to them too.
- Be sure to sing and say and pray your parts too as you stand and sit. Your children learn by following your lead.

If you and your child must leave, please hurry back. We want your children here so much that we didn't build a nursery. Like Jesus, we want your children in the Liturgy, not out.

- If you need a little help, just ask. There are lots of good folks here who would love to lend you a hand!

Please know that while you are caring for your children, the rest of us will be rejoicing in Jesus' words, "Let the little children come to me and do not hinder them, for the kingdom of God belongs to such as these" (Luke 18:16).

We know that your children are a gift to the Church, so we will do our best to welcome, smile, encourage, help and bless you all. Welcome to St. John!



Prelude

Matthias Raffa, *Organist Sunday &
Wednesday*

HYMN: “Jesus, Lead Thou On”

LSB 718

Stand

+ CONFESSION AND ABSOLUTION +

The sign of the cross may be made by all in remembrance of their Baptism.

Invocation

LSB 203

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.

Confession of Sins

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.

Silence for Reflection

- C** Almighty God, have mercy upon us, forgive us our sins, and lead us to everlasting life. Amen.

Absolution

- 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.

+ SERVICE OF THE WORD +

Introit

Psalm 37:5-7; antiphon: v. 4



- P** Delight yourself | in the LORD,*
and he will give you the desires | of your heart.
- C** Commit your way | to the LORD;*
trust in him, and | he will act.
- P** He will bring forth your righteousness | as the light,*
and your justice as the | noonday.
- C** Be still before the LORD and wait patiently | for him;*
fret not yourself over the one who prospers in his way, over the
man who carries out evil de- | vices!
- ALL** Glory be to the Father and | to the Son*
and to the Holy | Spirit;
as it was in the be- | ginning,*
is now, and will be forever. | Amen.
- P** Delight yourself | in the LORD,*
and he will give you the desires | of your heart.

Kyrie

LSB 204



C Lord, have mer - cy; Christ, have mer - cy; Lord, have mer - cy.

Gloria in Excelsis

LSB 204



C 1 To God on high be glo - ry And peace to all the earth;
2 To You, O sole - be - got - ten, The Fa - ther's Son, we pray;
3 For You a - lone are ho - ly; You on - ly are the Lord.



Good - will from God in heav - en Pro - claimed at Je - sus' birth!
O Lamb of God, our Sav - ior, You take our sins a - way.
For - ev - er and for - ev - er, Be wor - shiped and a - dored;



We praise and bless You, Fa - ther; Your ho - ly name, we sing—
Have mer - cy on us, Je - sus; Re - ceive our heart - felt cry,
You with the Ho - ly Spir - it A - lone are Lord Most High,



Our thanks for Your great glo - ry, Lord God, our heav'n - ly King.
Where You in pow'r are seat - ed At God's right hand on high—
In God the Fa - ther's glo - ry. "A - men!" our glad re - ply.

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.

Almighty God, Your Son willingly endured the agony and shame of the cross for our redemption. Grant us courage to take up our cross

daily and follow Him wherever He leads; through the same Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C Amen.

Sit

Old Testament Reading

Jeremiah 15:15-21

¹⁵O LORD, you know;
remember me and visit me,
and take vengeance for me on my persecutors.
In your forbearance take me not away;
know that for your sake I bear reproach.
¹⁶Your words were found, and I ate them,
and your words became to me a joy
and the delight of my heart,
for I am called by your name,
O LORD, God of hosts.
¹⁷I did not sit in the company of revelers,
nor did I rejoice;
I sat alone, because your hand was upon me,
for you had filled me with indignation.
¹⁸Why is my pain unceasing,
my wound incurable,
refusing to be healed?
Will you be to me like a deceitful brook,
like waters that fail?
¹⁹Therefore thus says the LORD:
“If you return, I will restore you,
and you shall stand before me.
If you utter what is precious, and not what is worthless,
you shall be as my mouth.
They shall turn to you,
but you shall not turn to them.
²⁰And I will make you to this people
a fortified wall of bronze;
they will fight against you,

but they shall not prevail over you,
for I am with you
to save you and deliver you,
declares the LORD.
²¹I will deliver you out of the hand of the wicked,
and redeem you from the grasp of the ruthless.”

P This is the Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

Gradual

Ps. 34:9, 19, alt.



P Fear the LORD, | you his saints, *
for those who fear him lack | nothing!

C Many are the afflictions of the | righteous, *
but the LORD delivers him out | of them all.

Epistle

Romans 12:9-21

⁹Let love be genuine. Abhor what is evil; hold fast to what is good. ¹⁰Love one another with brotherly affection. Outdo one another in showing honor. ¹¹Do not be slothful in zeal, be fervent in spirit, serve the Lord. ¹²Rejoice in hope, be patient in tribulation, be constant in prayer. ¹³Contribute to the needs of the saints and seek to show hospitality.

¹⁴Bless those who persecute you; bless and do not curse them.

¹⁵Rejoice with those who rejoice, weep with those who weep. ¹⁶Live in harmony with one another. Do not be haughty, but associate with the lowly. Never be conceited. ¹⁷Repay no one evil for evil, but give thought to do what is honorable in the sight of all. ¹⁸If possible, so far as it depends on you, live peaceably with all. ¹⁹Beloved, never avenge yourselves, but leave it to the wrath of God, for it is written, “Vengeance is mine, I will repay, says the Lord.” ²⁰To the contrary, “if your enemy is hungry, feed him; if he is thirsty, give him something to drink; for by so doing you will heap burning coals on his head.”

²¹Do not be overcome by evil, but overcome evil with good.

P This is the Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

Stand

Alleluia and Verse



Holy Gospel

Matthew 16:21-28

P The Holy Gospel according to St. Matthew, the sixteenth chapter.
C **Glory to You, O Lord.**

²¹From that time Jesus began to show his disciples that he must go to Jerusalem and suffer many things from the elders and chief priests and scribes, and be killed, and on the third day be raised. ²²And Peter took him aside and began to rebuke him, saying, "Far be it from you, Lord! This shall never happen to you." ²³But he turned and said to Peter, "Get behind me, Satan! You are a hindrance to me. For you are not setting your mind on the things of God, but on the things of man."

²⁴Then Jesus told his disciples, "If anyone would come after me, let him deny himself and take up his cross and follow me. ²⁵For whoever would save his life will lose it, but whoever loses his life for my sake will find it. ²⁶For what

will it profit a man if he gains the whole world and forfeits his life? Or what shall a man give in return for his life? ²⁷For the Son of Man is going to come with his angels in the glory of his Father, and then he will repay each person according to what he has done. ²⁸Truly, I say to you, there are some standing here who will not taste death until they see the Son of Man coming in his kingdom.”

P This is the Gospel of the Lord.

C Praise to You, 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.

Sit

HYMN: “Hail, Thou Once Depised Jesus”

LSB 531

Sermon “The Things of God”

The Rev. Dr. Mark Nuckols

Stand

Following the Sermon, the Pastor Prays:

P The peace of God, which passes all understanding, keep your hearts and minds in Christ Jesus.

C Amen.

Prayer of the Church

P Lord, in Your mercy,

C hear our prayer.

Final Petition:

P ... one God, now and forever.

C Amen.

Sit

Offering *(Please place your offering envelope in the collection plates at the entrance to the Sanctuary, thank you!)*

The Offering is a part of our Worship life together as God's children gathered here at St. John. This historical practice is more than "helping pay the electric bill". Having received His absolution and cleansing of our sin, the Offering, then, is a part of our worship posture (Psalm 51). As we move from the Service of the Word to the Service of the Sacrament we bring before God, in a communal fashion (Acts 2:42-47), the toils of our hands, the bread of the earth (Gen. 3:19) and give it to God. This, He transforms and provides back to us the Bread of Life in the Sacrament of the Altar! Together, placing our offerings in the plate, the Lord sees and treats all giving hearts the same, whether they can provide much or little (Luke 21:1-4). All of this, then, furthers God's mission and ministry in our flock and into the lives of our community members. May the Lord bless your lives as you entrust your possessions to Him (Phil. 4:10-20)!

Our Communion Statement

The Lord's Supper is celebrated at this congregation in the confession and glad confidence that, as he says, our Lord gives into our mouths not only bread and wine but his very body and blood to eat and to drink for the forgiveness of sins and to strengthen our union with him and with one another. Our Lord invites to his table those who trust his words, repent of all sin, and set aside any refusal to forgive and love as he forgives and loves us, that they may show forth his death until he comes.

Because those who eat and drink our Lord's body and blood unworthily do so to their great harm and because Holy Communion is a confession of the faith which is confessed at this altar, any who are not yet instructed, in doubt, or who hold a confession differing from that of this congregation and The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod, and yet desire to receive the sacrament, are asked first to speak with Pastor or see an usher to assist in speaking with Pastor or an Elder. All are welcome to come forward for a blessing from Pastor by placing your arms in an "X" across your chest.

If you intend to receive the blood of Christ in an individual cup, please place the empty cup in the gold bowls following your table's dismissal. If you intend to receive from the common cup, please raise your hand forward, signaling your preference, and then feel free to guide the chalice to your lips by holding on to the bottom of the chalice. For further study, *see Matthew 5:23f.; 10:32f.; 18:15-35; 26:26-29; 1 Cor. 11:17-34.*

+ 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.

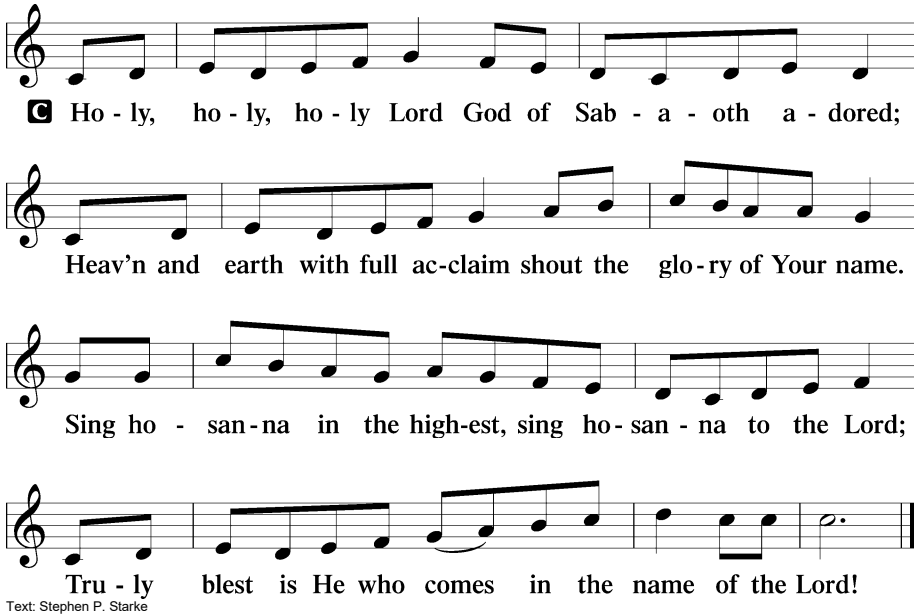
C It is right to give Him thanks and praise.

Proper Preface

P It is truly good, right, and salutary . . . evermore praising You and saying:

Sanctus

LSB 208



C Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord God of Sab - a - oth a - dored;
Heav'n and earth with full ac-claim shout the glo-ry of Your name.
Sing ho - san-na in the high-est, sing ho - san - na to the Lord;
Tru - ly blest is He who comes in the name of the Lord!

Text: Stephen P. Starke

Prayer of Thanksgiving

LSB 209

- P** Blessed are You, O Lord our God, king of all creation, for You have had mercy on us and given Your only-begotten Son that whoever believes in Him should not perish but have eternal life.

In Your righteous judgment You condemned the sin of Adam and Eve, who ate the forbidden fruit, and You justly barred them and all their children from the tree of life. Yet, in Your great mercy, You promised salvation by a second Adam, Your Son, Jesus Christ, our Lord, and made His cross a life-giving tree for all who trust in Him.

We give You thanks for the redemption You have prepared for us through Jesus Christ. Grant us Your Holy Spirit that we may faithfully eat and drink of the fruits of His cross and receive the blessings of forgiveness, life, and salvation that come to us in His body and blood.

Hear us as we pray in His name and as He has taught us:

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

1 O Je - sus Christ, true Lamb of God,
2 O Je - sus Christ, true Lamb of God,
You take the sin of the world a - way;
You take the sin of the world a - way;
O Je - sus Christ, true us, Lamb of God,
Have mer - cy on us, Je - sus Christ,
Have mer - cy on us, Lord, we pray.
And grant us peace, O Lord, we pray.

Text: Stephen P. Starke

Sit

Distribution and Hymns

HYMN: "Lord, Keep Us Steadfast in Your Word"

LSB 655

HYMN: "The Son of God Goes Forth to War"

LSB 661

HYMN: "Lord Jesus Christ, You Have Prepared"

LSB 622

HYMN: "By Grace I'm Saved"

LSB 566

Stand

Nunc Dimittis

LSB 211

1 O Lord, now let Your ser - vant De -
2 All glo - ry to the Fa - ther, All



part in heav'n - ly peace, For I have seen the
glo - ry to the Son, All glo - ry to the

glo - ry Of Your re - deem - ing grace:
Spir - it, For - ev - er Three in One;

A light to lead the Gen - tiles Un -
For as in lead the be - gin - ning, Is

to Your ho - ly hill, The glo - ry of Your
now, shall ev - er be, God's tri - une name re -

peo - ple, Your cho - sen Is - ra - el.
sound - ing Through all e - ter - ni - ty.

Post-Communion Collect

P Let us pray.

.... 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.

Sit

HYMN: "If God Himself Be For Me"

LSB 724

+ + + +

Divine Call Process – Candidate Nominations DUE TODAY!

The Call Committee is requesting pastoral candidate names from the congregation as the next step in our Divine Call Process. Any member may submit one or more nominations.

Nomination forms are available at the Welcome Center in the Narthex. Please return completed forms to the church office or to the church mailbox #222 by **August 30, 2026 – Today!**



We greatly appreciate your participation and input in the Divine Call Process. Join us in continued prayer as we thank God for His ongoing gracious provision and His faithful care and guidance of our congregation as the process moves forward. Please reach out to a call committee member if you have any questions.

Acknowledgments

Divine Service, Setting Four from Lutheran Service Book
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Serving Us this Week

Elders (9am): Michael Kiener & Aaron Viets

Finance Team: Parchim and Hempelman

Altar Committee: Karen Ravn & Sandi Thiel

Usher Team (#4): Ron Parchim, Captain

THE WEEK AHEAD

Sun (8/30/26)

† Fourteenth S. after Pentecost

- **Divine Service 9am** – with
*3rd and 4th grade catechesis resource
blessing*
- Farewell with Rev. Dr. Nuckols after
service (*Fellowship Hall*)

Wed (9/2/26)

- Youth Catechesis Night 530pm-630pm
5th and 6th Graders
- **Divine Service 7pm**

Sun (9/6/26)

† Fifteenth S. after Pentecost

- **Divine Service 9am** – with *Rev. Austin Meier*

Please Remember in Your Prayers:

- ✠ Rose Bottesi
- ✠ Jane Kultgen (Eric Kultgen's mother)
- ✠ Judy Fischer
- ✠ Keith Johnson
- ✠ Susan Kloppmann (Alisyn Bell's aunt)
- ✠ Randy Fairbert (Betty Fairbert's son)
- ✠ Lou Anne (Grace Bonjean's friend)
- ✠ Nico Lawver (Lisa McGuire's cousin's son)
- ✠ Pam Anschuetz (Renae Roos's friend)
- ✠ Amelia (Mass family friend)
- ✠ Joni Heilgendorf (Rose Bottesi's sister-in-law)
- ✠ John Diehl (Mike Czysh's uncle)
- ✠ Alvin Czysh (Mike Czysh's father)
- ✠ Mike Czysh
- ✠ Jeff Ader
- ✠ Ron Parchim
- ✠ James Blecha (Mike Berry's Grandson)
- ✠ Ellen Heilgendorf (cousin of Rose Bottesi)
- ✠ Tom Ravn
- ✠ Family of Kenneth Wilkens

Hymnals Now Available!

Concordia Publishing House had a recent sale on the ***Lutheran Service Book: Pew Edition (Hymnal)***.

St. John has purchased a limited number of hymnals to help make them available for use in our members' homes. The hymnals were purchased at a cost of \$20 each and are being offered for a freewill donation. **There are still 10 left!**

If your household would like to receive a copy, please contact the church office to reserve one.

Lutheran Service Book: Pew Edition

is a hymnal with a rich compilation of Christ-centered services, psalms, hymns, reading schedules and prayers to nourish the faithful week after week for generations to come.

**Emmanuel Lutheran Church
Adell, WI
Youth Activity Night and Picnic**



Fellowship Opportunity!!!

Date: Sunday, August 30th

Time: 4:30 - 7:00 PM

Place: **Adell Village Park** (across the street from Emmanuel, Adell)

Ages: Our youth group is 6th-12th grades, but bring whoever you would include in your events

Activities: Food (we'll be grilling and will also provide some sides and dessert, please bring drinks)

Games (kickball, yard games, and minnow races)

Devotion

We hope that you can make it and would love for you to bring however many you are able to. There's no cost other than **bringing some drinks for your group**. We're just looking to get our youth together for a time of fun and fellowship.

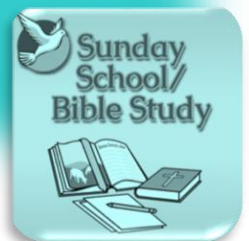
Sunday School and Bible Study Returning Soon!

On **September 13th**, St. John Lutheran returns to offering Sunday School and Bible Class between services. Join us at 915am each Sunday, to study God's Word together.

Service Times: 8am & 1030am

Sign-up on the clipboard in the Fellowship Hall to help with snacks and clean-up!

We look forward to the fellowship time.



UPCOMING Blood Drives



**American
Red Cross**

Blood
Services

The St. John Lutheran sponsored American Red Cross blood drive will take place on **Tuesday, September 8th** from 12pm-5pm in the Church Fellowship Hall. Please visit **RedCrossBlood.org** and enter code **FredoniaWI** to reserve your appointment or call 1-800-733-2767.



On Sunday, **November 8th**, the St. John Lutheran supported event through Versiti for “Virginia’s Renewed Strength Blood drive” will take place in the Church Fellowship Hall from 1030am-3pm. To schedule your time, please visit: **versiti.org**. Once on the website select **Donate Blood**, type in the **zip code of 53021**, the **date of the event** and schedule your time. We are grateful to Virginia Rathke’s desire to give back to the community and celebrate the donors who help her in her time of need. She gives thanks to God for His blessings during her medical challenges and shares these Bible verses from the book of Isaiah:

*He gives power to the faint,
and to him who has no might he increases strength.
Even youths shall faint and be weary,
and young men shall fall exhausted;
but they who wait for the Lord shall renew their strength;
they shall mount up with wings like eagles;
they shall run and not be weary;
they shall walk and not faint. **Isaiah 40:29-31***

Fall Schedule Start times!

Women’s Bible Study – Tuesday, September 8 – 1pm in the Church Library. For more information, please contact Robert Hilgendorf at 920-629-8474 or email her at r_hilgendorf@yahoo.com .

Using God’s Talents (UGT) – Wednesday, September 16th – 11am-3pm in the Church Fellowship Hall and adjoining rooms.

Men’s Bible Study – Thursday, September 17 – 615am at Fredonia Family Restaurant. Contact Steve Jagow with questions at 262.339.6891.





ST. JOHN EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH

The Lutheran Church – Missouri Synod

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