

Sunday, October 18, 2026

Render to Caesar
the things that are Caesar's,



Matthew 22:21

And to God
the things that are God's.

Twenty-First Sunday after Pentecost

Prelude

Matthias Raffa, Organist

HYMN: “All Depends on Our Possessing”

LSB 732

Stand

+ CONFESSION AND ABSOLUTION +

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

Invocation

- P** In the name of the Father and of the ✠ Son and of the Holy Spirit.
C Amen.

Exhortation

LSB 151

- P** If we say we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us.
C But if we confess our sins, God, who is faithful and just, will forgive our sins and cleanse us from all unrighteousness.

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

Confession of Sins

LSB 151

- P** Let us then confess our sins to God our Father.
C Most merciful God, we confess that we are by nature sinful and unclean. We have sinned against You in thought, word, and deed, by what we have done and by what we have left undone. We have not loved You with our whole heart; we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. We justly deserve Your present and eternal punishment. For the sake of Your Son, Jesus Christ, have mercy on us. Forgive us, renew us, and lead us, so that we may delight in Your will and walk in Your ways to the glory of Your holy name. Amen.

Absolution

LSB 151

- 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.

Remain Standing

+ SERVICE OF THE WORD +

Introit

Psalms 121:1–4, 7–8; antiphon: v. 5



P The LORD is your | keeper;*
the LORD is your shade on your | right hand.

C I lift up my eyes | to the hills.*
From where does my | help come?

P My help comes | from the LORD,*
who made | heaven and earth.

C He will not let your | foot be moved;*
he who keeps you will not | slumber.

P Behold, he who keeps | Israel*
will neither slum- | ber nor sleep.

C The LORD will keep you from all | evil;*
he will | keep your life.

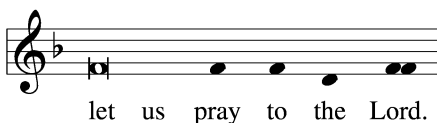
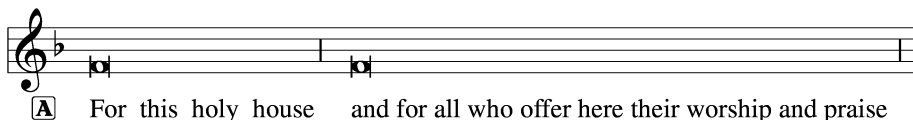
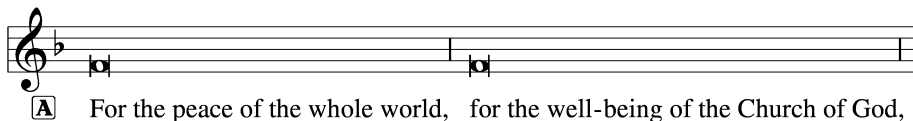
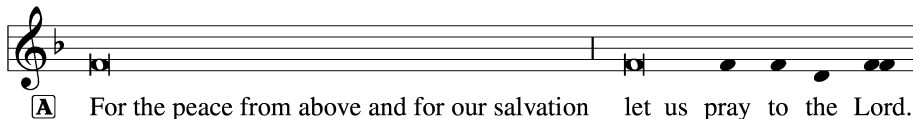
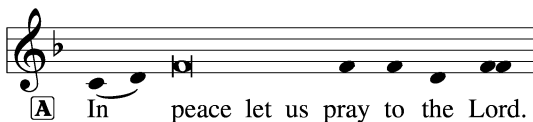
P The LORD will keep your going out and your | coming in*
from this time forth and for- | evermore.

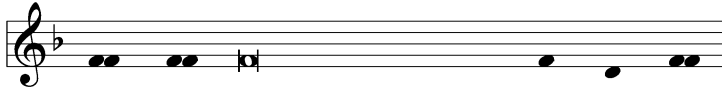
ALL Glory be to the Father and | to the Son*
and to the Holy | Spirit;
as it was in the be- | ginning,*
is now, and will be forever. | Amen.

P The LORD is your | keeper;*
the LORD is your shade on your | right hand.

Kyrie

LSB 152





A Help, save, comfort, and defend us, gra - cious Lord.



C A - men.

Gloria in Excelsis

LSB 154



A Glory to God in the highest, and peace to His peo - ple on earth.



C Lord God, heav-en-ly king, al-might-y God and Fa - ther:



We wor-ship You, we give You thanks, we praise You for Your glo-ry.



Lord Je-sus Christ, on-ly Son of the Fa-ther, Lord God, Lamb of God:



You take a - way the sin of the world; have mer-cy on us.



You are seat-ed at the right hand of the Fa-ther; re-ceive our prayer.



For You a-lone are the Ho-ly One, You a-lone are the Lord,

You a-lone are the Most High, Je-sus Christ, with the Ho-ly Spir-it,
in the glo - ry of God the Fa - ther. A - men.

Salutation and Collect of the Day

P The Lord be with you.

C And al - so with you.

P Let us pray.

O God, the protector of all who trust in You, have mercy on us that with You as our ruler and guide we may so pass through things temporal that we lose not the things eternal; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C A - men.

Sit

Old Testament Reading

Isaiah 45:1-7

¹Thus says the LORD to his anointed, to Cyrus,
whose right hand I have grasped,
to subdue nations before him
and to loose the belts of kings,
to open doors before him
that gates may not be closed:
²"I will go before you
and level the exalted places,

I will break in pieces the doors of bronze
 and cut through the bars of iron,
³I will give you the treasures of darkness
 and the hoards in secret places,
 that you may know that it is I, the LORD,
 the God of Israel, who call you by your name.
⁴For the sake of my servant Jacob,
 and Israel my chosen,
 I call you by your name,
 I name you, though you do not know me.
⁵I am the LORD, and there is no other,
 besides me there is no God;
 I equip you, though you do not know me,
⁶that people may know, from the rising of the sun
 and from the west, that there is none besides me;
 I am the LORD, and there is no other.
⁷I form light and create darkness,
 I make well-being and create calamity,
 I am the LORD, who does all these things.”

A This is the Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

Gradual

Psalm 91:11; 103:1



P He will command his angels con- | cerning you*
 to guard you in | all your ways.

C Bless the Lord, | O my soul,*
 and all that is within me, bless his | holy name!

Epistle

1 Thessalonians 1:1–10

¹Paul, Silvanus, and Timothy,
 To the church of the Thessalonians in God the Father and the Lord
 Jesus Christ:
 Grace to you and peace.

²We give thanks to God always for all of you, constantly mentioning you in our prayers, ³remembering before our God and Father your work of faith and labor of love and steadfastness of hope in our Lord Jesus Christ. ⁴For we know, brothers loved by God, that he has chosen you, ⁵because our gospel came to you not only in word, but also in power and in the Holy Spirit and with full conviction. You know what kind of men we proved to be among you for your sake. ⁶And you became imitators of us and of the Lord, for you received the word in much affliction, with the joy of the Holy Spirit, ⁷so that you became an example to all the believers in Macedonia and in Achaia. ⁸For not only has the word of the Lord sounded forth from you in Macedonia and Achaia, but your faith in God has gone forth everywhere, so that we need not say anything. ⁹For they themselves report concerning us the kind of reception we had among you, and how you turned to God from idols to serve the living and true God, ¹⁰and to wait for his Son from heaven, whom he raised from the dead, Jesus who delivers us from the wrath to come.

A This is the Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

Stand

Alleluia and Verse

LSB 156

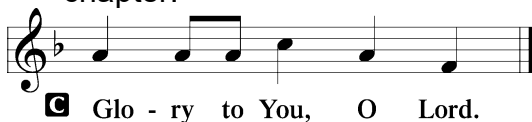


C Al - le - lu - ia. Lord, to whom shall we go? You have the
words of e - ter - nal life. Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.

Holy Gospel

Matthew 22:15-22

P The Holy Gospel according to St. Matthew, the twenty-second chapter.



C Glo - ry to You, O Lord.

¹⁵Then the Pharisees went and plotted how to entangle [Jesus] in his talk. ¹⁶And they sent their disciples to him, along with the Herodians, saying, "Teacher, we know that you are true and teach the way of God truthfully, and you do not care about anyone's opinion, for you are not swayed by appearances. ¹⁷Tell us, then, what you think. Is it lawful to pay taxes to Caesar, or not?" ¹⁸But Jesus, aware of their malice, said, "Why put me to the test, you hypocrites? ¹⁹Show me the coin for the tax." And they brought him a denarius. ²⁰And Jesus said to them, "Whose likeness and inscription is this?" ²¹They said, "Caesar's." Then he said to them, "Therefore render to Caesar the things that are Caesar's, and to God the things that are God's." ²²When they heard it, they marveled. And they left him and went away.

P This is the Gospel of the Lord.



C Praise to You, O Christ.

Sit

HYMN: "Holy, God, We Praise Thy Name"

LSB 940

Sermon

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.

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.

Prayer of the Church

P Lord, in Your mercy,
C hear our prayer.

Final Petition:

P ... one God, now and forever.
C Amen.

Our Offerings to God

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)!

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

Offertory

LSB 159



G What shall I ren-der to the Lord for all His ben-e-fits to
me? I will of-fer the sac-ri-fice of thanks-giv-ing and will
call on the name of the Lord. I will take the cup of sal-
va-tion and will call on the name of the Lord. I will pay my
vows to the Lord now in the pres-ence of all His peo-ple, in the
courts of the Lord's house, in the midst of you, O Je-ru-sa-lem.

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.

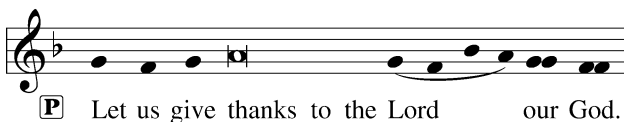
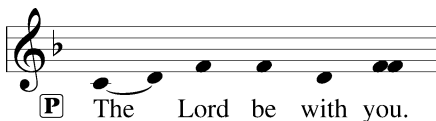
Because those who eat and drink our Lord's body and blood unworthily do so to their great harm and because Holy Communion is a confession of the faith which is confessed at this altar, any who are not yet instructed, in doubt, or who hold a confession differing from that of this congregation and The 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 +

Preface

LSB 160



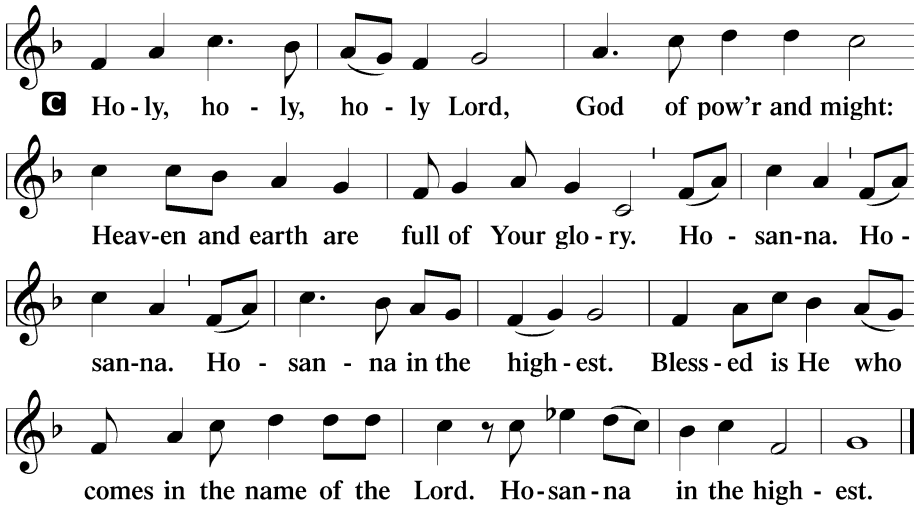


Proper Preface

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

Sanctus

LSB 161



Prayer of Thanksgiving

LSB 161

P Blessed are You, Lord of heaven and earth, for You have had mercy on those whom You created and sent Your only-begotten Son into our flesh to bear our sin and be our Savior. With repentant joy we receive the salvation accomplished for us by the all-availing sacrifice of His body and His blood on the cross.

Gathered in the name and the remembrance of Jesus, we beg You, O Lord, to forgive, renew, and strengthen us with Your Word and Spirit. Grant us faithfully to eat His body and drink His blood as He bids us do in His own testament. Gather us together, we pray, from the ends

of the earth to celebrate with all the faithful the marriage feast of the Lamb in His kingdom, which has no end. Graciously receive our prayers; deliver and preserve us. To You alone, O Father, be all glory, honor, and worship, with the Son and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C Amen.

Lord's Prayer

LSB 162

P Lord, remember us in Your kingdom and teach us to pray:

C Our Father who art in heaven,
hallowed be Thy name,
Thy kingdom come,
Thy will be done on earth
as it is in heaven;
give us this day our daily bread;
and forgive us our trespasses
as we forgive those
who trespass against us;
and lead us not into temptation,
but deliver us from evil.
For Thine is the kingdom
and the power and the glory
forever and ever. Amen.

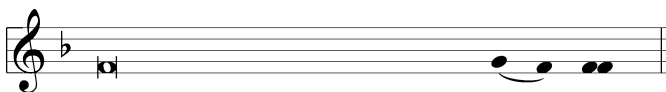
The Words of Our Lord

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

LSB 163



P The peace of the Lord be with you al - ways.



C A - men.

Agnus Dei

LSB 163



C Lamb of God, You take a - way the sin of the world; have



mer-cy on us. Lamb of God, You take a - way the sin of the



world; have mer-cy on us. Lamb of God, You take a - way the



sin of the world; grant us peace.

Sit

Distribution

HYMN: "Lord of Glory, You Have Bought Us"

LSB 851

HYMN: "Gracious God, You Sent Great Blessings"

LSB 782

HYMN: "For Me to Live Is Jesus"

LSB 742

HYMN: "All Hail the Power of Jesus' Name "

LSB 549

Stand

Thank the Lord

LSB 164



C Thank the Lord and sing His praise; tell ev-'ry-one what He has done.



Let all who seek the Lord re - joice and proud-ly bear His name.



He re-calls His prom-is - es and leads His peo-ple forth in joy



with shouts of thanks-giv-ing. Al-le - lu - ia, al-le - lu - ia.

Post-Communion Collect

A Let us pray.

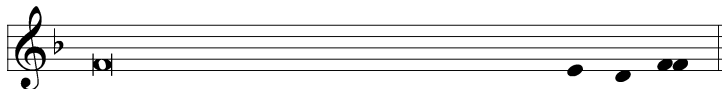
We give thanks to You, almighty God, that You have refreshed us through this salutary gift, and we implore You that of Your mercy You would strengthen us through the same in faith toward You and in fervent love toward one another; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.



C A - men.

Benediction

LSB 166



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.



Sit

HYMN: "We Give Thee But Thine Own"

LSB 781



UPCOMING Blood Drive

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](https://www.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***



ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

Divine Service, Setting One from Lutheran Service Book

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Serving Us this Week

Elders (8am): Ben Ross

(1030am): Steve Jagow

Finance Team: Dowe & D. Brookins

Altar Committee: Melissa Lareau &
Cindy Scheunemann

Usher Team (#1): Ben Hedrick, Captain

THE WEEK AHEAD

Sun (10/18/26)

† Twenty-first S. after Pentecost

- **Divine Service 8am and 1030am–**
with Rev. Dr. Mark Nuckols
- Bible Study and Sunday School
Hour 915am-1015am
- **Voter's Meeting: Candidate Call**
Ballot after 2nd service – *Sanctuary*

Tues (10/20/26)

- Women's Bible Study – 1pm *Church Library*

Wed (10/21/26)

- UGT 11am-3pm
- Youth Catechesis 5th and 6th grades –
530pm

Thurs (10/22/26)

- Men's Bible Study – 630am
- *Fredonia Family Restaurant*
- Chimes Practice – 7pm

Sun (10/25/26)

† Reformation Sunday Observed

- **Divine Service 8am and 1030am–**
with Rev. Richard Gaub
- Bible Study and Sunday School
Hour 915am-1015am

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)
- ✠ 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)
- ✠ Sandra Truebenbach

St. Thomas Lutheran Church in Waldo

Your Invited! The 30th Annual Chili Dinner will be held on Election Day, November 3rd from 4-7 PM. Tickets for **All You Can Eat** sell for \$10. They will be serving up **Chili** and **Beef Vegetable Soup** with homemade **tortes** for dessert. Also, you may purchase a quart to go for \$6.





ST. MARK LUTHERAN CHURCH'S ANNUAL CHICKEN BOOYAH

Chicken Booyah is a delicious, rich chicken vegetable stew cooked in cast iron kettles over a hardwood fire in the famous Green Bay tradition. It is MSG-free and bone-free. Pick up a quart or a gallon to enjoy during the football game or freeze it for up to 6 months. It will still taste great!

**When: Sunday, October 18th from
10:00 am to 1:00 pm**

(or until sold out)

**Where: St. Mark Lutheran Church,
200 Park Street, Belgium, WI 53004**

**Cost: \$10.00 per quart or \$35.00 per
gallon. Bring your own container if
you'd like. Pre-order on our website
listed below.**

Info: (262) 285-3820 or

www.stmarklutheranbelgium.org

This is our church's biggest fundraiser with money used for special projects throughout the year.

Thank you for supporting St. Mark's!



LWML 2025–2027 MISSION GRANT

MOBILIZING AFTER SCHOOL CARE FOR TEENS

OUR PLACE AFTER SCHOOL CARE INC.,
HASTINGS, NE | \$69,500

Handicapped Accessible Van for Teens with Special Needs

Our Place After School Care is a caring, Christian program for teenagers with special needs. This program was started in a church basement as there was a need for after-school care for teens between the ages of thirteen and twenty who have aged out of the area daycares. Programming designed to promote academic, social, and life skills is provided.

Our Place is open for these teenagers until their parents can get them after work. It provides a loving and safe environment, education and fellowship, but for the teenagers that are confined to wheelchairs, it is currently extremely difficult to get them from their school to Our Place.

This mission grant will provide funds for a vehicle equipped with a wheelchair lift to solve this transportation problem. This vehicle will be a huge aid in after-school transportation and would also enable possible educational and recreational opportunities within the community.

The vehicle will enhance the quality of life for the teenagers and will be a huge asset to the staff. Our prayer is that God will bless the students and staff by the addition of this vehicle with the wheelchair lift.





ST. JOHN EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH

The Lutheran Church – Missouri Synod

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