

**WORSHIP LEADERS**

Preacher: Pastor Snow

Liturgist: Pastor Barry

Pianist: Kristin Johnson

Choir: Messengers of Praise

Violinist: Ellen Degler

**September 21, 2025 8:00am**

**Fifteenth Sunday after Pentecost**

**WELCOME AND INVOCATION**

**OPENING HYMN**

**"Lord of All Hopefulness"**

**LSB 738**

Lord of all hopefulness, Lord of all joy,  
Whose trust, ever childlike, no cares could destroy:  
Be there at our waking, and give us, we pray,  
Your bliss in our hearts, Lord, at the break of the day.

Lord of all eagerness, Lord of all faith,  
Whose strong hands were skilled at the plane and the lathe:  
Be there at our labors, and give us, we pray,  
Your strength in our hearts, Lord, at the noon of the day.

Lord of all kindliness, Lord of all grace,  
Your hands swift to welcome, Your arms to embrace:  
Be there at our homing, and give us, we pray,  
Your love in our hearts, Lord, at the eve of the day.

Lord of all gentleness, Lord of all calm,  
Whose voice is contentment, whose presence is balm:  
Be there at our sleeping, and give us, we pray,  
Your peace in our hearts, Lord, at the end of the day.

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## CONFESSION AND ABSOLUTION

If we say we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us.

**But if we confess our sins, God, who is faithful and just, will forgive our sins and cleanse us from all unrighteousness.**

Let us then confess our sins to God our Father.

**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.**

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.

**Amen.**

## RESPONSE TO GOD'S GRACE

**"Jesus Loves Me"**

**LSB 588**

Jesus loves me! This I know,  
For the Bible tells me so.  
Little ones to Him belong;  
They are weak, but He is strong.

### ***Refrain***

Yes, Jesus loves me!  
Yes, Jesus loves me!  
Yes, Jesus loves me!  
The Bible tells me so.

Jesus loves me! He who died  
Heaven's gates to open wide.  
He has washed away my sin,  
Lets His little child come in. **Refrain**

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## **PRAYER OF THE DAY**

Lord God, bless Your Word wherever it is proclaimed. Make it a word of power and peace to convert those not yet Your own and to confirm those who have come to saving faith.

**May Your Word pass from the ear to the heart, from the heart to the lip, and from the lip to the life.**

As You have promised, may Your Word achieve the purpose for which You send it; through Jesus Christ, our Lord.

**Amen.**

## **BIBLE MILESTONES – God's Word is placed in children's hands**

*Bibles are provided by Ladies Aid. Catechisms are provided by Mary Martha Guild  
3rd graders, please stay after the service for a group picture.*

Presentation of Bibles and Catechisms to 3rd Graders

3-year-olds will receive Bibles at 9:30 in their classroom.

7th Grade Confirmands celebrate the Rite of Beginning as they begin Confirmation.

## **CHILDREN'S MESSAGE**

### **SPECIAL MUSIC**

**"O Word of God"**

**arr. Craig Courtney**

### **OLD TESTAMENT READING**

**Amos 8:4–7**

*Faith Alive Bible p. #1040*

Hear this, you who trample on the needy and bring the poor of the land to an end, saying, "When will the new moon be over, that we may sell grain? And the Sabbath, that we may offer wheat for sale, that we may make the ephah small and the shekel great and deal deceitfully with false balances, that we may buy the poor for silver and the needy for a pair of sandals and sell the chaff of the wheat?" The Lord has sworn by the pride of Jacob: "Surely I will never forget any of their deeds."

This is the Word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

## EPISTLE

## 1 Timothy 2:1–15

*Faith Alive Bible p. #1408*

First of all, then, I urge that supplications, prayers, intercessions, and thanksgivings be made for all people, for kings and all who are in high positions, that we may lead a peaceful and quiet life, godly and dignified in every way. This is good, and it is pleasing in the sight of God our Savior, who desires all people to be saved and to come to the knowledge of the truth. For there is one God, and there is one mediator between God and men, the man Christ Jesus, who gave himself as a ransom for all, which is the testimony given at the proper time. For this I was appointed a preacher and an apostle (I am telling the truth, I am not lying), a teacher of the Gentiles in faith and truth.

I desire then that in every place the men should pray, lifting holy hands without anger or quarrel; likewise also that women should adorn themselves in respectable apparel, with modesty and self-control, not with braided hair and gold or pearls or costly attire, but with what is proper for women who profess godliness—with good works. Let a woman learn quietly with all submissiveness. I do not permit a woman to teach or to exercise authority over a man; rather, she is to remain quiet. For Adam was formed first, then Eve; and Adam was not deceived, but the woman was deceived and became a transgressor. Yet she will be saved through childbearing—if they continue in faith and love and holiness, with self-control.

This is the Word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

## ALLELUIA AND VERSE

**LSB 173**

Al - le - lu - ia. Lord, to whom shall we go?

You have the words of e - ter - nal life. Al - le - lu - ia.

The Holy Gospel according to St. Luke, the sixteenth chapter.

**Glory to You, O Lord.**

[Jesus] also said to the disciples, “There was a rich man who had a manager, and charges were brought to him that this man was wasting his possessions. And he called him and said to him, ‘What is this that I hear about you? Turn in the account of your management, for you can no longer be manager.’ And the manager said to himself, ‘What shall I do, since my master is taking the management away from me? I am not strong enough to dig, and I am ashamed to beg. I have decided what to do, so that when I am removed from management, people may receive me into their houses.’ So, summoning his master’s debtors one by one, he said to the first, ‘How much do you owe my master?’ He said, ‘A hundred measures of oil.’ He said to him, ‘Take your bill, and sit down quickly and write fifty.’ Then he said to another, ‘And how much do you owe?’ He said, ‘A hundred measures of wheat.’ He said to him, ‘Take your bill, and write eighty.’ The master commended the dishonest manager for his shrewdness. For the sons of this world are more shrewd in dealing with their own generation than the sons of light. And I tell you, make friends for yourselves by means of unrighteous wealth, so that when it fails they may receive you into the eternal dwellings.

“One who is faithful in a very little is also faithful in much, and one who is dishonest in a very little is also dishonest in much. If then you have not been faithful in the unrighteous wealth, who will entrust to you the true riches? And if you have not been faithful in that which is another’s, who will give you that which is your own? No servant can serve two masters, for either he will hate the one and love the other, or he will be devoted to the one and despise the other. You cannot serve God and money.”

The Pharisees, who were lovers of money, heard all these things, and they ridiculed him. And he said to them, “You are those who justify yourselves before men, but God knows your hearts. For what is exalted among men is an abomination in the sight of God.”

This is the Gospel of the Lord.

**Praise to You, O Christ.**

**HYMN OF THE DAY      “You Are the Way; through You Alone”      LSB 526**

You are the way; through You alone  
Can we the Father find;  
In You, O Christ, has God revealed  
His heart and will and mind.

You are the life; the empty tomb  
Proclaims Your conqu’ring arm,  
And those who put their trust in You  
Not death nor hell shall harm.

You are the truth; Your Word alone  
True wisdom can impart;  
You only can inform the mind  
And purify the heart.

You are the way, the truth, the life;  
Grant us that way to know,  
That truth to keep, that life to win  
Whose joys eternal flow.

Text: Public domain

**SERMON      “Lord, In Your Mercy”      Pastor Snow**

**NICENE CREED**

**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**

Blessed Lord, we thank You for Your Holy Word through which You bestow on us Your grace working through faith in our lives. Through this Word, we are given the guidance and direction that we need for daily living as well as the sure hope of eternal life. May we be people who read and live according to Your Word. Lord, in Your mercy,  
**hear our prayer.**

Blessed Lord, You have entrusted children to their parents that they may be nurtured in Your knowledge and truth. Give patience and wisdom to parents that they may joyfully and faithfully teach their children to walk in Your ways. As we celebrate Bible Milestones today, we pray that you would guide our 3 year olds, our third graders, confirmation students, and all children to seek You in Your Word as they read it together with their parents in their homes. Strengthen them in their faith as they grow in grace and knowledge of You as You reveal Yourself in Your Word. Lord, in Your mercy,  
**hear our prayer.**

Blessed Lord, give to Your Church faithful pastors and courageous leaders who will speak the truth of Your Word in its fullness. Guard and support them as they stand against those who oppose the Gospel. Through the power of Your Holy Spirit, bless our nation and give us Your peace. Lord, in Your mercy,  
**hear our prayer.**

Blessed Lord, we pray for all who commune at Your table this day, that they do so in fervent faith, receiving the gifts of life and salvation. Lord, in Your mercy,  
**hear our prayer.**

Blessed Lord, give to the sick and the suffering the blessing of Your grace to heal, relieve, restore, and sustain them in their trials ... According to Your will grant us all that we need to sustain us in the day of trouble. Lord, in Your mercy,  
**hear our prayer.**

Receive our prayers for we trust in Your mercy and have confidence that You will grant us all things needful, through Jesus Christ, our Lord.  
**Amen.**

## OFFERING

### PREFACE

LSB 177

The Lord be with you.

**And also with you.**

Lift up your hearts.

**We lift them to the Lord.**

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

**It is right to give Him thanks and praise.**

It is truly good, right, and salutary that we should at all times and in all places give thanks to You, holy Lord, almighty Father, everlasting God, through Jesus Christ, our Lord, who on this day overcame death and the grave and by His glorious resurrection opened to us the way of everlasting life. Therefore with angels and archangels and with all the company of heaven we laud and magnify Your glorious name, evermore praising You and saying:

### SANCTUS

LSB 178

Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, Lord God of  
pow'r and might: Heav'n and earth are full of Your  
glo - ry. Ho - san - na in the high - est.  
Bless - ed is He who comes in the name  
of the Lord. Ho - san - na in the high - est.



## THE LORD'S PRAYER

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

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 180

The peace of the Lord be with you always.

Amen.

## AGNUS DEI

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, grant us peace.

*Please be seated.*

## **COMMUNION AT ST. JOHN'S**

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. This we eat and 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 to a confession differing from that of this congregation and The Lutheran Church-Missouri Synod, and yet desire to receive the sacrament, are asked to first speak with the pastor or an elder. For further readings in Scripture, we suggest Matthew 5:23f.; 10:32f.; 18:15-35; 26:26-29; 1 Cor. 11:17-34.

- **Communicants will receive elements in a continuous fashion.**
- **If you would like the pastor to bring communion to you, please inform an usher anytime during the service.**
- **Children of all ages may join their parents and receive a special blessing.**
- **For those who desire it, non-alcoholic wine is available in the center ring of the tray of individual cups.**

## **DISTRIBUTION**

### **HYMN**

### **"What Is the World to Me"**

**LSB 730**

What is the world to me  
With all its vaunted pleasure  
When You, and You alone,  
Lord Jesus, are my treasure!  
You only, dearest Lord,  
My soul's delight shall be;  
You are my peace, my rest.  
What is the world to me!.

The world seeks after wealth  
And all that mammon offers  
Yet never is content  
Though gold should fill its coffers.  
I have a higher good,  
Content with it I'll be:  
My Jesus is my wealth.  
What is the world to me!

The world seeks to be praised  
And honored by the mighty  
Yet never once reflects  
That they are frail and flighty.  
But what I truly prize  
Above all things is He,  
My Jesus, He alone.  
What is the world to me!

What is the world to me!  
My Jesus is my treasure,  
My life, my health, my wealth,  
My friend, my love, my pleasure,  
My joy, my crown, my all,  
My bliss eternally.  
Once more, then, I declare:  
What is the world to me!

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**HYMN****“Jesus, Thy Blood and Righteousness”****LSB 563**

Jesus, Thy blood and righteousness  
My beauty are, my glorious dress;  
Midst flaming worlds, in these arrayed,  
With joy shall I lift up my head.

Bold shall I stand in that great day,  
Cleansed and redeemed, no debt to pay;  
Fully absolved through these I am  
From sin and fear, from guilt and shame.

Lord, I believe Thy precious blood,  
Which at the mercy seat of God  
Pleads for the captives' liberty,  
Was also shed in love for me.

Text: Public domain

Lord, I believe, were sinners more  
Than sands upon the ocean shore,  
Thou hast for all a ransom paid,  
For all a full atonement made.

When from the dust of death I rise  
To claim my mansion in the skies,  
This then shall be my only plea:  
Jesus hath lived and died for me.

Jesus, be endless praise to Thee,  
Whose boundless mercy hath for me,  
For me, and all Thy hands have made,  
An everlasting ransom paid.

**HYMN****“Dear Christians, One and All, Rejoice”****LSB 556, vv. 1-5**

Dear Christians, one and all, rejoice,  
With exultation springing,  
And with united heart and voice  
And holy rapture singing,  
Proclaim the wonders God has done,  
How His right arm the vict'ry won.  
What price our ransom cost Him!

Fast bound in Satan's chains I lay;  
Death brooded darkly o'er me.  
Sin was my torment night and day;  
In sin my mother bore me.  
But daily deeper still I fell;  
My life became a living hell,  
So firmly sin possessed me.

My own good works all came to naught,  
No grace or merit gaining;  
Free will against God's judgment fought,  
Dead to all good remaining.  
My fears increased till sheer despair  
Left only death to be my share;  
The pangs of hell I suffered.

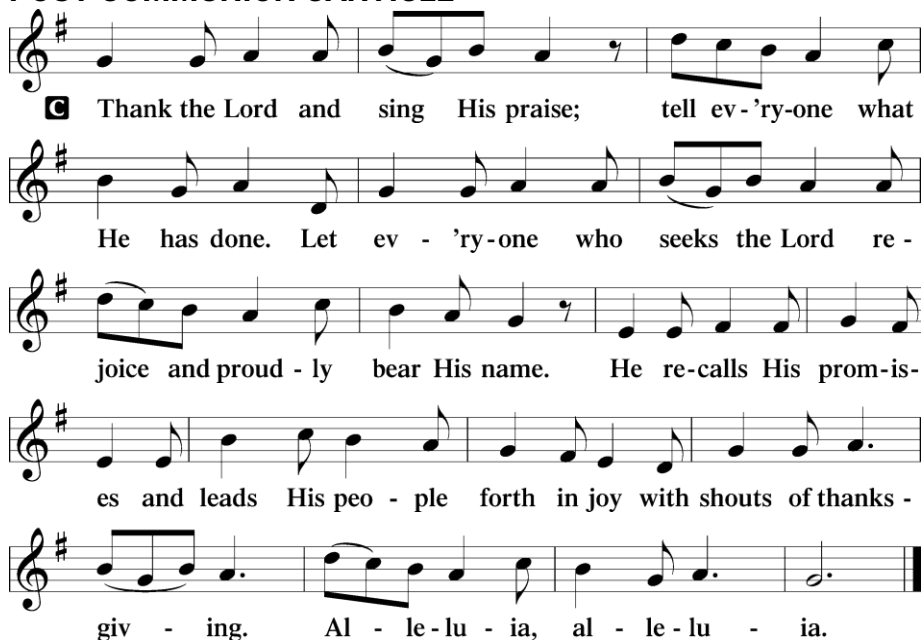
Text: Public domain

But God had seen my wretched state  
Before the world's foundation,  
And mindful of His mercies great,  
He planned for my salvation.  
He turned to me a father's heart;  
He did not choose the easy part  
But gave His dearest treasure.

God said to His beloved Son:  
“It's time to have compassion.  
Then go, bright jewel of My crown,  
And bring to all salvation.  
From sin and sorrow set them free;  
Slay bitter death for them that they  
May live with You forever.”

## POST-COMMUNION CANTICLE

LSB 181



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

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.

**Amen.**

## BENEDICTION

LSB 183

**CLOSING HYMN****“For the Fruits of His Creation”****LSB 894, vv. 1-2**

For the fruits of His creation,  
Thanks be to God.

For His gifts to ev’ry nation,  
Thanks be to God.

For the plowing, sowing, reaping,  
Silent growth while we are sleeping,  
Future needs in earth’s safekeeping,  
Thanks be to God.

In the just reward of labor,  
God’s will is done.

In the help we give our neighbor,  
God’s will is done.

In our worldwide task of caring  
For the hungry and despairing,  
In the harvests we are sharing,  
God’s will is done.

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**SENDING**

Go in peace, serve the Lord.

**Thanks be to God**

**THANK YOU FOR WORSHIPING WITH ST. JOHN’S TODAY! If this is your first time at St. John’s, we encourage you to fill out a CONNECTCard located on the Welcome Desk. We want an opportunity to get to know you.**

**WORSHIP ASSISTANTS**

Acolyte: Hadley Schmitz

Elder: Paul DeRocher

Communion Assistants: Chris Mundahl, Marcus Simpson, Gayle Degler

Usher Team: Jay Molnau

Welcome Team: Maddy Leaton, Gayle Degler

Tech Crew: Jason Eickhoff

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<b>UPCOMING WEEK</b>	
Monday, September 22	Men's Bible Study 6:30am
	Monday Night Meal 5:15pm
	AA 7:00pm
Tuesday, September 23	Care Team Meeting 10:30am
Wednesday, September 24	Moms in the Word 9:30am
	Confirmation (Public School) 6:00pm
	Walk Through the Bible - 3 <sup>rd</sup> Grade 6:30pm
	Messengers of Praise Choir Rehearsal 7:00pm
Thursday, September 25	Women's Lifelight Bible Study 9:30am
	Pre-K Bible Story Night 5:30pm
Friday, September 26	AA 6:30pm
Sunday, September 28	Worship 8:00/9:30/10:45am
	Education Hour 9:30am
	Discovery Class 9:30am

## **Celebrating Birthdays**

9/21  
 Nicole Lainhart  
 Vernon Morschen  
 Jeff Angell  
 9/22  
 Heidi Moe  
 Miles Voehl  
 Kimberly Vosika  
 Lynnae Degler  
 Bill Groboski  
 9/23  
 Michael Kloos  
 Kristal McCollam  
 Liam O'Borsky

9/24  
 Kristina Baseman  
 Norma Thompson  
 Jeff Wachter  
 Teliah Beach  
 Evelyn Milbrandt  
 Arlys Evans  
 Matthew Swanson  
 9/25  
 Shaun Baseman  
 Cami Mesenbring  
 Stella Oelfke

9/25  
 Rosalie Porisch  
 Jon Schuelke  
 Myles Messenger  
 Randy Peek  
 9/26  
 Pastor Greg Snow  
 Brooke Paulsrud  
 Annie Kloos  
 9/27  
 Ashleigh Hegseth  
 Locryn Dahms  
 Travis Siegle

## **Celebrating Anniversaries**

9/21 Jacob and Christy Garner  
9/21 Adam and Hailey Busker  
9/22 Tanya Dahlke and Chris Coder  
9/22 Nicolas and Ami Fuller  
9/24 Jon and Jamie DeBoer

9/24 Joshua and Beth Kloos  
9/24 Jon and Jackie Schuelke  
9/25 Mitch and Becky Kirchoff  
9/26 Jeffrey and Andrea Eggert  
9/27 Carissa and Derek O'Borsky

## **Expectant Moms**

Jessica Lewis  
Nicole Thuente

Anna Jeurissen  
Hailey Busker

Katelyn Olson  
Amy Peterson

## **Prayers for Healing and Strength**

Jeanette Lieske  
Chris Ries  
John Gates  
Pete Siedelman

Jolene Berg  
Ruth Ziegler  
Angeline Rannow  
Doris Rossow

Joann Mueller  
Gary Anderson  
Jack Boman

## **Ongoing Prayers**

Carol Affeldt  
John Barney  
Angel Benes  
Jimann Campbell  
Julie Carver  
Marguerite Craighead  
Sunnie Deis  
Bob DeMaris  
Anita Doss  
Sid & Merna Fjelstad

Dennis Gaarder  
Bernie Gnan  
Pearl Gray  
Hilde Grev  
Eugene Henke  
Suzanne Honebrink  
Carol Jones  
Len Kallsen  
Gretchen Laubach  
Jeanette Lieske

Melinda Meuwissen  
Gina Niesche  
Steve Pond  
Austin Rannow  
Val Schlefsky  
Cliff Waller  
Lisa Neitzel  
Merlin Bentz  
Ruth Harms

## **In Sympathy**

The friends and family of Orma Kraai upon her passing.

Misty Reisner and family upon the death of Misty's mother, Deb Wold.