

OCTOBER 26, 2025

# THE WEEKLY WORD

ST. JOHN'S LUTHERAN CHURCH & SCHOOL



## MEDITATION

## JOHN 8:31-36

For those raised in Lutheranism, these words are very familiar. In the Small Catechism, these words come after everything from the Ten Commandments to Communion. The purpose of this oft-repeated question, first written by Martin Luther, is simple: to take a belief and explain it in a simple way. The goal of all these questions and answers is so that everyone, from theologians to parents, would be able to learn these beliefs, and to say why, "this is most certainly true".

As we celebrate Reformation Day, we ask ourselves this same question in a different way: what does it mean to be Lutheran? And more than that, what even is a Lutheran? Chances are many, many reading this have been asked this very question at some point in their lives.

So what does it mean to be a Lutheran? Many answer that question by painting a picture, saying that this is what we do, or this is the type of things they may see in a service. Others may answer this question by comparing Lutheranism to other expressions of Christianity. In other words, we are like this denomination, but different in these ways. All of these help answer this, but fail to give a complete or completely accurate picture. So what does it mean to be a Lutheran?

One of the earliest and most distinctive things of the Reformation was the so-called "solas" of the Reformation. These solas are things that stand alone as pillars of our faith. As Lutherans, we rely on scripture alone to tell us about God. This scripture tells us we are saved by grace alone, through faith alone. These three solas, Latin for only, set our faith apart and help share the foundation of our hope and confidence.

## PRAYER

Almighty God, we give You thanks for the gift of Your Word which reveals not only who You are, but Your great love for us. We thank you for the gift of grace which wipes away all our sins through the suffering and death of Jesus. We thank you for the gift of faith, which allows us to believe in who You are and in what You have done for us. Let us cling to this hope even as we share this same hope with others. Amen.

**Pastor Barry**

## THIS WEEK

**Monday - October 27**

Men's Bible Study 6:30am

Monday Night Meal 5:15pm

AA 7:00pm

**Wednesday - October 29**

Moms in the Word 9:30am

MOP Choir Rehearsal 7:00pm

**Thursday - October 30**

Women's LifeLight Bible Study 9:30am

Trail Life Troop Meeting 6:30pm

**Friday - October 31**

AA 6:30pm

**All Saints' Sunday - November 2**

Chancel Steps Signing 9:00am - 12:00pm

Worship 8:00/9:30/10:45am

Education Hour 9:30am



THE WEEKLY WORD

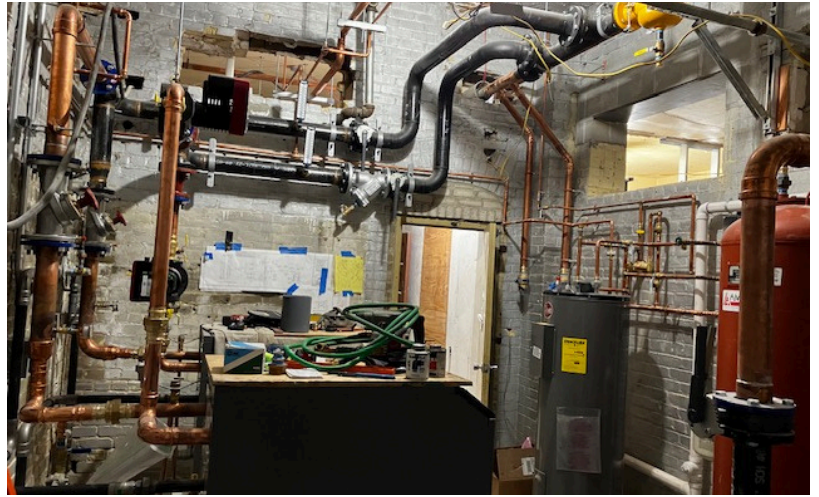
300 E. 4TH ST. CHASKA, MN 55318  
952-448-2433

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# Construction Update



Partitions are being framed and sheetrock installed in the church basement. In the foreground are two storage rooms. At the rear of the photo is the new Women's Restroom.



New piping and equipment is being installed in the Boiler Room daily, as the contractor works towards getting the boilers fired up and the hot water heating system for the renovated classrooms operational.



9 1/2" diameter holes are being drilled through the floor of the Sanctuary for installation of new supply air diffusers under the pews. Most air will still be supplied by the larger diffusers in the side aisles, but these diffusers will help provide a more uniform temperature throughout the space.

## Set Your Clocks Back Next Weekend!

Daylight Saving Time ends next Sunday, November 2. Be sure to set your clocks back one hour before going to bed Saturday night!



## All Saints' Day Cross Signing

As is our tradition in preparation for St. John's All Saints' Day celebration, you will have the opportunity to sign a cross with the name of a loved one who died in the faith in this past year. On **Sunday, October 19th and 26th**, tables will be set up both in the Lower Commons and at the back of the Gym with crosses to sign.

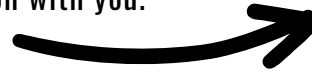
## Sign the Steps - November 2<sup>nd</sup>

Next Sunday, November 2nd, all are invited to the sanctuary between services to sign the chancel steps and view construction progress.

## Veterans Day Breakfast & Chapel

We invite all veterans to join us at St. John's for a special breakfast and Chapel on **Thursday, November 6<sup>th</sup>, 2025**, from **8:15am - 10:30am** in your honor. We're grateful for your service and look forward to sharing this time of appreciation with you.

**Please scan the QR code to let us know if you can attend!**



## LoveINC Winterwear Clothing Drive

St. John's is again participating in the LoveINC Winterwear Clothing Drive. They are requesting new and gently used winter coats, snow pants, warm boots, hats, and waterproof mittens and gloves for adults and children. You may drop off your donations in the box outside the church office until October 31st. Thank you for your generosity.



## Support Families Moving Forward

His House Foundation (HHF) is relaunching the Families Moving Forward program to assist local families transitioning out of housing crises. You can help by purchasing urgently needed items through their Amazon Wish List, which can be shipped directly to the program. Your gift of sheets, towels, cookware, or other basics will directly support families as they move toward permanent housing. **Scan the QR code on the left to view the list.**

## Chapel Offering Partnership

For chapel on October 30<sup>th</sup>, we're collecting canned fruit (any kind) for St. John's Monday Night Meal! Donations can be dropped off in the box outside the school office.

**Questions?** Contact Amy Feek or Ashleigh Hegseth.

## Feed My Starving Children - Youth Event

High school youth (grades 9-12) are invited to serve together at Feed My Starving Children in Chanhassen on **Monday, November 11**, from 5:00-6:30 PM. **Scan the QR code below to sign up!**

**Questions?** Contact Justin Weber at [justin.weber@stjohns-chaska.org](mailto:justin.weber@stjohns-chaska.org)



## WORSHIP SCHEDULE

Sundays at 8:00/9:30/10:45am in the Gymnasium  
(Livestream at the 8:00am Service)

## CHURCH OFFICE HOURS

Monday - Friday 8:00am-4:30pm



## PRAYER LIST

Please continue to share your prayer requests by filling out the back of a Connect Card located on the information desks in the upper gathering and main level common areas or by going to [www.stjohns-chaska.org](http://www.stjohns-chaska.org) and clicking on "How can we pray for you?" You can also contact the church office: email: [churchoffice@stjohns-chaska.org](mailto:churchoffice@stjohns-chaska.org) or by phone 952-448-2433

## HAPPY BIRTHDAY

10/26 Carol Jones Annabelle Danner	10/29 Sylver Syrette Madalyn Tesch Leslie Dartt Wells Waldner	11/1 Brecquel Brandmire Cathie DeMaris Daniel Siegle Mila Wille Katie Barry Wyatt Fischer Alex Bahl
10/27 Larry Brandmire Timothy Schaekel	10/30 Steven Beulke Joanne Morschen John Barney	
10/28 Steve Baker		

### FOR HEALING AND STRENGTH

Julie Carver Angel Benes Westlee Koepsell Bernie Gnan	Marilyn Lenzen John Gates Jolene Berg Angeline Rannow	Joann Mueller Gary Anderson Jack Boman
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### CELEBRATING ANNIVERSARIES

10/26 Jerry and Mary Griffin	10/30 James and Laura Holasek
10/26 Kyle and Catherine Raether	10/30 Vance and Jill Huwe
10/29 Luke and Emily Puza	10/31 Robert and Kathy Roepke



### EXPECTANT MOMS

Nicole Stockey  
Kourtney Vipond  
Jessica Lewis  
Nicole Thuente  
Katelyn Olson  
Amy Peterson

### IN SYMPATHY

Ashley Lenz and family upon the passing of Ashley's mother, Lisa Neitzel.  
Deanne Hofer and family upon the passing of Deanne's mother, Dorris Rossow.  
Cody Gnade and family upon the passing of Cody's mother, Christine Gnade.

### 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 Hilde Grev Eugene Henke	Carol Jones Len Kallsen Gretchen Laubach Melinda Meuwissen Gina Niesche Steve Pond Austin Rannow	Val Schlefsky Cliff Waller Ruth Ziegler Merlin Bentz - brother of Linda Knox Ruth Harms - sister-in-law of Marilyn Lenzen
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