

Nineteenth Sunday after Pentecost

October 4, 2026 | 8:00 AM
October 5, 2026 | 6:30 PM



St. John's
LUTHERAN CHURCH & SCHOOL

WELCOME AND INVOCATION

OPENING HYMN

"Christ, the Word of God Incarnate"

LSB 540, vv. 1-3

Christ, the Word of God incarnate, Lord and Son of Abraham;
Christ, the radiance of the Father, Perfect God, the great I AM;
Christ, the light, You shine unvanquished, Light and life You bring to all;
Light our path with Your own presence, Grant us grace to heed Your call.

Christ, the living bread from heaven, Food for body, food for soul;
Christ, the manna daily given, Nourish, strengthen, make us whole.
Feed us with the food of heaven, Foretaste of the feast to be;
Quench our thirst with living water Springing up eternally.

Christ, the shoot that springs triumphant From the stump of Jesse's tree;
Christ, true vine, You nurture branches To bear fruit abundantly.
Graft us into You, O Savior; Prune our hearts so we remain
Fruitful branches in Your vineyard Till eternal life we gain.

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OPENING SENTENCES

I will go to the altar of God,
to God my exceeding joy. *Psalms 43:4*

Our help is in the name of the LORD,
who made heaven and earth. *Psalms 124:8*

Behold, this is our God; we have waited for Him, that He might save us.
**This is the LORD; we have waited for Him; let us be glad and rejoice
in His salvation.** *Isaiah 25:9*

CONFESSION AND ABSOLUTION

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.

Lord God, heavenly Father, we confess to You that we have sinned against You through our failure to live according to Your will and design. Our love for You has faltered and we have also 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, we come before You, begging Your forgiveness for the sake of the sacrifice of Your Son. O Lord, have mercy on us.

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.

HYMN OF PRAISE

"This Is the Feast"

LSB 155

Refrain:

This is the feast of victory for our God. Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.

Worthy is Christ, the Lamb who was slain,
whose blood set us free to be people of God. **Refrain**

Power, riches, wisdom, and strength,
and honor, blessing and glory are His. **Refrain**

Sing with all the people of God,
and join in the hymn of all creation:
Blessing, honor, glory, and might
be to God and the Lamb forever. Amen. **Refrain**

For the Lamb who was slain has begun His reign. Alleluia. **Refrain**

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PRAYER OF THE DAY

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.

Amen.

OLD TESTAMENT READING

Isaiah 5:1-7

Pew Bible Page 569

¹Let me sing for my beloved my love song concerning his vineyard: My beloved had a vineyard on a very fertile hill. ²He dug it and cleared it of stones, and planted it with choice vines; he built a watchtower in the midst of it, and hewed out a wine vat in it; and he looked for it to yield grapes, but it yielded wild grapes. ³And now, O inhabitants of Jerusalem and men of Judah, judge between me and my vineyard. ⁴What more was there to do for my vineyard, that I have not done in it? When I looked for it to yield grapes, why did it yield wild grapes? ⁵And now I will tell you what I will do to my vineyard. I will remove its hedge, and it shall be devoured; I will break down its wall, and it shall be trampled down. ⁶I will make it a waste; it shall not be pruned or hoed, and briers and thorns shall grow up; I will also command the clouds that they rain no rain upon it. ⁷For the vineyard of the Lord of hosts is the house of Israel, and the men of Judah are his pleasant planting; and he looked for justice, but behold, bloodshed; for righteousness, but behold, an outcry!

This is the Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

If anyone else thinks he has reason for confidence in the flesh, I have more: ⁵circumcised on the eighth day, of the people of Israel, of the tribe of Benjamin, a Hebrew of Hebrews; as to the law, a Pharisee; ⁶as to zeal, a persecutor of the church; as to righteousness, under the law blameless. ⁷But whatever gain I had, I counted as loss for the sake of Christ. ⁸Indeed, I count everything as loss because of the surpassing worth of knowing Christ Jesus my Lord. For his sake I have suffered the loss of all things and count them as rubbish, in order that I may gain Christ ⁹and be found in him, not having a righteousness of my own that comes from the law, but that which comes through faith in Christ, the righteousness from God that depends on faith— ¹⁰that I may know him and the power of his resurrection, and may share his sufferings, becoming like him in his death, ¹¹that by any means possible I may attain the resurrection from the dead. ¹²Not that I have already obtained this or am already perfect, but I press on to make it my own, because Christ Jesus has made me his own. ¹³Brothers, I do not consider that I have made it my own. But one thing I do: forgetting what lies behind and straining forward to what lies ahead, ¹⁴I press on toward the goal for the prize of the upward call of God in Christ Jesus.

This is the Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

ALLELUIA AND VERSE**LSB 156**

Alleluia. Lord, to whom shall we go?

You have the words of eternal life. Alleluia, alleluia.

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

Glory to you, O Lord.

³³[Jesus said:] “Hear another parable. There was a master of a house who planted a vineyard and put a fence around it and dug a winepress in it and built a tower and leased it to tenants, and went into another country. ³⁴When the season for fruit drew near, he sent his servants to the tenants to get his fruit. ³⁵And the tenants took his servants and beat one, killed another, and stoned another. ³⁶Again he sent other servants, more than the first. And they did the same to them. ³⁷Finally he sent his son to them, saying, ‘They will respect my son.’ ³⁸But when the tenants saw the son, they said to themselves, ‘This is the heir. Come, let us kill him and have his inheritance.’ ³⁹And they took him and threw him out of the vineyard and killed him. ⁴⁰When therefore the owner of the vineyard comes, what will he do to those tenants?” ⁴¹They said to him, “He will put those wretches to a miserable death and let out the vineyard to other tenants who will give him the fruits in their seasons.” ⁴²Jesus said to them, “Have you never read in the Scriptures: “‘The stone that the builders rejected has become the cornerstone; this was the Lord’s doing, and it is marvelous in our eyes’? ⁴³Therefore I tell you, the kingdom of God will be taken away from you and given to a people producing its fruits. ⁴⁴And the one who falls on this stone will be broken to pieces; and when it falls on anyone, it will crush him.” ⁴⁵When the chief priests and the Pharisees heard his parables, they perceived that he was speaking about them. ⁴⁶And although they were seeking to arrest him, they feared the crowds, because they held him to be a prophet.

This is the Gospel of the Lord.

Praise to You, O Christ.

CHILDREN’S MESSAGE

DCE Justin Weber

HYMN OF THE DAY **“Fruitful Trees, the Spirit’s Sowing”** **LSB 691**

Fruitful trees, the Spirit's sowing, May we ripen and increase,
Fruit to life eternal growing, Rich in love and joy and peace.

Laden branches freely bearing Gifts the Giver loves to bless;
Here is fruit that grows by sharing, Patience, kindness, gentleness.

Rooted deep in Christ our Master, Christ our pattern and our goal,
Teach us, as the years fly faster, Goodness, faith, and self-control.

Fruitful trees, the Spirit's tending, May we grow till harvests cease;
Till we taste, in life unending, Heaven's love and joy and peace.

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SERMON

“Fruitful Stones”

Pastor Snow

+ Sermon Notes +

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

Lord God, heavenly Father, for the mystery of Your gift of our lives, Your good creation, and Your holy will of love and salvation, we praise You without end. Help us to live in Your love and praise, giving thanks every day for Your provision of life and salvation. Lord, in Your mercy,
hear our prayer.

For the faithful women of the Lutheran Women's Missionary League here at St. John's and around the country, we thank you, Lord. Bless their tireless work that connects people of all ages to You and Your love. That they may be empowered to continue serving You with gladness in all that they do. Lord, in Your mercy,
hear our prayer.

By Your goodness, O Lord, keep and preserve Your holy church in the true faith, proclaiming the pure, heavenly doctrine of Your Word and being constantly strengthened in Your love. Lord, in Your mercy,
hear our prayer.

By Your Spirit, guide all those who are in authority, that we dwell in peace and rely on Your provision of justice and freedom for all. Lord, in Your mercy,
hear our prayer.

We pray for all who are sick or hospitalized and for any who are in trouble, doubt, or fear of death. Grant Your healing gifts and merciful presence to save and deliver all who look to You for help in every need, especially... Lord, in Your mercy,
hear our prayer.

Into Your hands we commend ourselves and all for whom we pray, trusting in Your mercy; through Your Son, Jesus Christ, our Lord.
Amen.

OFFERING

OFFERTORY**“Let the Vineyards Be Fruitful”****LSB 955**

Let the vineyards be fruitful, Lord,
And fill to the brim our cup of blessing.
Gather a harvest from the seeds that were sown,
That we may be fed with the bread of life.
Gather the hopes and the dreams of all;
Unite them with the prayers we offer now.
Grace our table with Your presence, and give us
A foretaste of the feast to come.

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PREFACE*2 Timothy 4:22*

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, out of love for His fallen creation, humbled Himself by taking on the form of a servant, becoming obedient unto death, even death upon a cross. Risen from the dead, He has freed us from eternal death and given us life everlasting. 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**“Holy, Holy, Holy”****LSB 161**

Holy, holy, holy Lord God of pow'r and might:
Heaven and earth are full of Your glory.
Hosanna. Hosanna.
Hosanna in the highest.
Blessed is He who comes in the name of the Lord.
Hosanna in the highest.

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

Matthew 26:26–28; Mark 14:22–24; Luke 22:19–20; 1 Corinthians 11:23–25

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

"The Peace of the Lord"

The peace of the Lord be with you always.

Amen.

AGNUS DEI

"Lamb of God"

LSB 163

Lamb of God, You take away the sin of the world; have mercy on us.

Lamb of God, You take away the sin of the world; have mercy on us.

Lamb of God, You take away the sin of the world; 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, called *"Kneel and Replace"*.**
- **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.**
- **Individual cups may be deposited in the wooden box on the wall.**

***KNEEL AND REPLACE**

We have begun using a new pattern for receiving Holy Communion called "Kneel and Replace." When invited forward, communicants are asked to come to the communion rail and kneel to receive the Lord's Supper. After you have received the Body and Blood of Christ, in with and under the bread and the wine:

1. *Pause briefly in reverence and thanksgiving.*
2. *Rise and return to your seat.*
3. *As you leave the rail, those waiting behind you may then come forward and take your place. This allows all communicants to receive the Sacrament prayerfully, reverently, and in good order. If kneeling is difficult for you, you are welcome to stand at the rail instead.*

DISTRIBUTION

HYMN**“What Wondrous Love Is This”****LSB 543**

What wondrous love is this, O my soul, O my soul!

What wondrous love is this, O my soul!

What wondrous love is this

That caused the Lord of bliss

To bear the dreadful curse for my soul, for my soul,

To bear the dreadful curse for my soul!

When I was sinking down, sinking down, sinking down,

When I was sinking down, sinking down,

When I was sinking down

Beneath God's righteous frown,

Christ laid aside His crown for my soul, for my soul,

Christ laid aside His crown for my soul.

To God and to the Lamb I will sing, I will sing;

To God and to the Lamb I will sing;

To God and to the Lamb,

Who is the great I AM,

While millions join the theme, I will sing, I will sing,

While millions join the theme, I will sing.

And when from death I'm free, I'll sing on, I'll sing on;

And when from death I'm free, I'll sing on.

And when from death I'm free,

I'll sing His love for me,

And through eternity I'll sing on, I'll sing on,

And through eternity I'll sing on.

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What is this bread?
Christ's body risen from the dead:
This bread we break,
This life we take,
Was crushed to pay for our release.
O taste and see—the Lord is peace.

What is this wine?
The blood of Jesus shed for mine;
The cup of grace
Brings His embrace
Of life and love until I sing!
O taste and see—the Lord is King.

So who am I,
That I should live and He should die
Under the rod?
My God, my God,
Why have You not forsaken me?
O taste and see—the Lord is free.

Yet is God here?
Oh, yes! By Word and promise clear,
In mouth and soul
He makes us whole—
Christ, truly present in this meal.
O taste and see—the Lord is real.

Is this for me?
I am forgiven and set free!
I do believe
That I receive
His very body and His blood.
O taste and see—the Lord is good.

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My song is love unknown, My Savior's love to me,
Love to the loveless shown That they might lovely be.
Oh, who am I That for my sake
My Lord should take Frail flesh and die?

He came from His blest throne Salvation to bestow;
But men made strange, and none The longed-for Christ would know.
But, oh, my friend, My friend indeed,
Who at my need His life did spend!

Sometimes they strew His way And His sweet praises sing;
Resounding all the day Hosannas to their King.
Then “Crucify!” Is all their breath,
And for His death They thirst and cry.

Why, what hath my Lord done? What makes this rage and spite?
He made the lame to run, He gave the blind their sight.
Sweet injuries! Yet they at these
Themselves displease And 'gainst Him rise.

They rise and needs will have My dear Lord made away;
A murderer they save, The Prince of Life they slay.
Yet cheerful He To suff'ring goes
That He His foes From thence might free.

In life no house, no home My Lord on earth might have;
In death no friendly tomb But what a stranger gave.
What may I say? Heav'n was His home
But mine the tomb Wherein He lay.

Here might I stay and sing, No story so divine!
Never was love, dear King, Never was grief like Thine.
This is my friend, In whose sweet praise
I all my days Could gladly spend!

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HYMN

“When I Behold Jesus Christ”

LSB 542

When I behold Jesus Christ, True God who died for me,
I wonder much at His love As He hung on the tree. **Refrain**

Refrain:

What kind of love is this? What kind of love is this?
You showed Your love, Jesus, there To me on Calvary.
What kind of love is this? What kind of love is this?
You showed Your love, Jesus, there To me on Calvary.

For me You gave all Your love, For me You suffered pain;
I find no words, nothing can Your selflessness explain. **Refrain**

You had no sin, holy Lord, But You were tortured, tried;
On Golgotha there for all My sins You bled and died. **Refrain**

What love is this? Greater love No one has ever known.
My life with God— this I owe To You, and You alone. **Refrain**

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POST-COMMUNION CANTICLE

“Thine the Amen, Thine the Praise”

LSB 680, vv. 1, 4

Thine the amen Thine the praise
Alleluias angels raise
Thine the everlasting head
Thine the breaking of the bread
Thine the glory Thine the story
Thine the harvest then the cup
Thine the vineyard then the cup is
Lifted up lifted up.

Thine the kingdom Thine the prize
Thine the wonder full surprise
Thine the banquet then the praise
Then the justice of Thy ways
Thine the glory Thine the story
Then the welcome to the least
Then the wonder all increasing at
Thy feast at Thy feast.

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DISMISSAL

BENEDICTION

Numbers 6:24-26

CLOSING HYMN

“Fight the Good Fight”

LSB 664, vv. 1, 3

Fight the good fight with all your might;
Christ is your strength, and Christ your right.
Lay hold on life, and it shall be
Your joy and crown eternally.

Cast care aside, lean on your guide;
His boundless mercy will provide.
Trust, and enduring faith shall prove
Christ is your life and Christ your love.

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SENDING

Go in peace, serve the Lord.

Thanks be to God!

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+ Today's Worship Servants +

WORSHIP LEADERS

Preacher: Pastor Snow

Liturgist: Pastor Barry

Organist: 8:00 Kristin Johnson

Pianist: 6:30 Gunnar Olson

WORSHIP ASSISTANTS

Acolyte: Matthew Swanson

Communion Assistants: Gayle Degler, Chris Hammons,
Dante Langemade

Elders: 8:00 Chris Mundahl/6:30 Bruce Bergo

Usher Team: Mark Asmus

Welcome Team: Gayle Degler

Tech Crew: Jason Eickhoff

Coffee Hour: LWML Women

Banner & Paraments: Joan Bode

Today at St. John's

8:00 AM | Traditional Worship with Communion

9:00 AM | Coffee Hour

9:30/10:45 AM | Blended Worship with Communion

9:30 AM | Education Hour and Sunday School

6:00 PM | Youth Night

Upcoming Week	
Monday, October 5	5:30 PM Monday Night Meal
	6:30 PM Monday Night Worship
	7:00 PM AA
Tuesday, October 6	6:30 PM Board of Education Meeting
	6:30 PM Trustees Meeting
Wednesday, October 7	9:30 AM Moms in the Word
	7:00 PM Messengers of Praise Rehearsal
Thursday, October 8	9:30 AM Life Light Bible Study
	5:30 PM Youth Night at Degler Farm
Friday, October 9	6:00 PM All for One at Hazeltine Golf Club
	6:30 PM AA
Sunday, October 11	8:00 AM Traditional Worship
	9:30 & 10:45 AM Blended Worship
	9:30 AM Education Hour/Sunday School
	6:00 PM Club 56

Thank you for worshipping with St. John's today!

If this is your first time at St. John's, we invite you to fill out a CONNECTCard located at the Welcome Desk or by using the QR code. We look forward to CONNECT-ing with you.



Weekly Word Preview

Read all these stories at stjohnschaska.org/word, scan the QR code, or pick up a printed copy at the back of the church.



Come enjoy a spaghetti dinner at St. John's on Friday, October 16 from 5:00–8:00 PM and help support Monday Night Meal. The Spaghetti Feed is sponsored by the Chaska Lions, and all proceeds will benefit Monday Night Meal. A freewill offering will be collected, and everyone is welcome to attend.



Join us for Trunk or Treat at St. John's! Families from St. John's and throughout our community are invited for an afternoon of trick-or-treating at decorated cars, games and prizes, snacks, a bounce house, and more.

This year's theme is "The Changeless Love of Jesus," based on Hebrews 13:8: "Jesus Christ is the same yesterday and today and forever." As the leaves change around us each fall, we're reminded that Jesus does not. His love remains the same, and Trunk or Treat gives us a joyful opportunity to welcome our neighbors and share that unchanging love with the families who come to St. John's.