

St. John Lutheran Church



**Those
who
humble
themselves
will be
exalted**

LUKE 14:11

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Tracks 1 and 2

ELCA-K

ST. JOHN EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH

The Rev. Tammy P. Harmer

Deacon Betsey Eley & Deacon Ken Weaver

12TH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST • AUGUST 31, 2025

Reverent Reflection

Prelude

Welcome

Church Announcements

Confession and Forgiveness

- P. Blessed be the holy Trinity, + one God, who forgives all our sin, whose mercy endures forever.
- C. **Amen.**
- P. O God, powerful and compassionate, you shepherd your people, faithfully feeding and protecting us. Heal each of us, and make us a whole people, that we may embody the justice and peace of your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.
- C. **Amen.**
- P. Most merciful God,
- C. **we confess that we are captive to sin and cannot free ourselves. 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. 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.**
- P. In the mercy of almighty God, Jesus Christ was given to die for us and for his sake God forgives us all our sin. As a called and ordained minister of the church of Christ, and by his authority, I therefore declare to you the entire forgiveness of all your sins in the name of the Father, and of the + Son, and of the Holy Spirit.
- C. **Amen.**

Gathering Hymn: As We Gather At Your Table (#522)

Apostolic Greeting

- P. The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.
- C. **And also with you.**

Kyrie p. 147

- P. In peace, let us pray to the Lord.
- C. **Lord, have mercy.**
- P. For the peace from above, and for our salvation, let us pray to the Lord.
- C. **Lord, have mercy.**
- P. For the peace of the whole world, for the well-being of the Church of God, and for the unity of all, let us pray to the Lord.
- C. **Lord, have mercy.**
- P. For this holy house, and for all who offer here their worship and praise, let us pray to the Lord.

- C. **Lord, have mercy.**
- P. Help, save, comfort, and defend us, gracious Lord.
- C. **Amen.**

Canticle p. 149

- P. This is the feast of victory for our God. Alleluia.
- C. **Worthy is Christ, the Lamb who was slain, whose blood set us free to be people of God. Power and riches and wisdom and strength, and honor and blessing and glory are his. This is the feast of victory for our God. Alleluia.**
Sing with all the people of God and join in the hymn of all creation:
Blessing and honor and glory and might be to God and the Lamb forever. Amen.
This is the feast of victory for our God, for the Lamb who was slain has begun his reign. Alleluia. Alleluia.
- P. The Lord be with you.
- C. **And also with you.**

Prayer of the Day

Let us pray:

O God, you resist those who are proud and give grace to those who are humble. Give us the humility of your Son, that we may embody the generosity of Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.

Word

First Reading: Proverbs 25:6-7a

- ⁶ Do not put yourself forward in the king's presence or stand in the place of the great;
- ^{7a} for it is better to be told, "Come up here," than to be put lower in the presence of a noble.

Word of God, word of life.

Thanks be to God.

Psalm 112

Response: "The righteous are merciful and full of compassion."

- ¹ Hallelujah! Happy are they who fear the Lord and have great delight in God's commandments!
- ² **Their descendants will be mighty in the land; the generation of the upright will be blessed. R**
- ³ Wealth and riches will be in their house, and their righteousness will last forever.
- ⁴ **Light shines in the darkness for the upright; the righteous are merciful and full of compassion.**
- ⁵ It is good for them to be generous in lending and to manage their affairs with justice.
- ⁶ **For they will never be shaken; the righteous will be kept in everlasting remembrance. R**
- ⁷ They will not be afraid of any evil rumors; their heart is steadfast, trusting in the Lord.
- ⁸ **Their heart is established and will not shrink, until they see their desire upon their enemies.**
- ⁹ They have given freely to the poor, and their righteousness standfast forever; they will hold up their head with honor.
- ¹⁰ **The wicked will see it and be angry; they will gnash their teeth and pine away; the desires of the wicked will perish. R**

Second Reading: Hebrews 13:1-8, 15-16

¹ Let mutual love continue. ² Do not neglect to show hospitality to strangers, for by doing that some have entertained angels without knowing it. ³ Remember those who are in prison, as though you were in prison with them; those who are being tortured, as though you yourselves were being tortured. ⁴ Let marriage be held in honor by all, and let the marriage bed be kept undefiled; for God will judge fornicators and adulterers. ⁵ Keep your lives free from the love of money, and be content with what you have; for he has said, "I will never leave you or forsake you." ⁶ So we can say with confidence, "The Lord is my helper; I will not be afraid. What can anyone do to me?"

⁷ Remember your leaders, those who spoke the word of God to you; consider the outcome of their way of life, and imitate their faith. ⁸ Jesus Christ is the same yesterday and today and forever.

¹⁵ Through him, then, let us continually offer a sacrifice of praise to God, that is, the fruit of lips that confess his name. ¹⁶ Do not neglect to do good and to share what you have, for such sacrifices are pleasing to God.

Word of God, word of life.

Thanks be to God.

Gospel Acclamation p. 151

Alleluia. Lord, to whom shall we go? You have the words of eternal life. Alleluia.

Gospel: Luke 14:1, 7-14

The holy gospel according to St. Luke.

Glory to you, O Lord.

¹ On one occasion when Jesus was going to the house of a leader of the Pharisees to eat a meal on the sabbath, they were watching him closely.

⁷ When he noticed how the guests chose the places of honor, he told them a parable. ⁸ "When you are invited by someone to a wedding banquet, do not sit down at the place of honor, in case someone more distinguished than you has been invited by your host; ⁹ and the host who invited both of you may come and say to you, 'Give this person your place,' and then in disgrace you would start to take the lowest place. ¹⁰ But when you are invited, go and sit down at the lowest place, so that when your host comes, he may say to you, 'Friend, move up higher'; then you will be honored in the presence of all who sit at the table with you. ¹¹ For all who exalt themselves will be humbled, and those who humble themselves will be exalted."

¹² He said also to the one who had invited him, "When you give a luncheon or a dinner, do not invite your friends or your brothers or your relatives or rich neighbors, in case they may invite you in return, and you would be repaid. ¹³ But when you give a banquet, invite the poor, the crippled, the lame, and the blind. ¹⁴ And you will be blessed, because they cannot repay you, for you will be repaid at the resurrection of the righteous."

The gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, O Christ.

Sermon

Children's Sermon

Anthem

Apostles' Creed

I believe in God, the Father almighty, creator of heaven and earth, I believe in Jesus Christ, God's only Son, our Lord, who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died and was buried; he descended to the dead. On the third day he rose again; he ascended into heaven, he is seated at the right hand of the Father, and he will come to judge the living and the dead. I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy catholic church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen.

Prayers of Intercession

Let us pray for the church, the creation, and the whole people of God, for God is near.

A brief silence.

For the leaders of the church, we pray. Inspire deacons, pastors, Sunday school teachers, and Christian education directors with a passion for speaking the word of God. Equip all the baptized to share your word of grace.

Hear us, O God. **Your mercy is great**

For the well-being of creation, we pray. Sustain farm workers and all who labor in fields and vineyards to grow the food we eat. Revive plains and pastures, and provide for the cattle and creatures who rely on the land for their sustenance.

Hear us, O God. **Your mercy is great.**

For the leaders of towns, cities, provinces, states, and nations (leaders may be named), we pray. Guide them to enact equitable laws and policies for all. On this Labor/Labour Day weekend, make us mindful of workers whose labor often goes unnoticed.

Hear us, O God. **Your mercy is great**

For the lowly and those who are ignored, we pray. Provide for the needs of vulnerable communities, those who are unemployed, burdened by debt, or struggle to make ends meet. Accompany all who need reassurance of your loving presence (especially).

Hear us, O God. **Your mercy is great.**

For the hospitality ministries of this congregation, we pray. Give ushers and greeters a spirit of welcome for visitors, and bless the work of those who feed and nourish us (specific ministries may be named).

Hear us, O God. **Your mercy is great**

We pray for peace throughout the world: in our nation, Ukraine, Israel, Gaza, Sudan, and all war-torn areas. We pray for our military and their families.

Hear us, O God. **Your mercy is great**

For all the saints who from their labors rest, we give thanks. With them, we offer our sacrifice of praise to you, O God, the same yesterday and today and forever.

Hear us, O God. **Your mercy is great**

Confident in God's presence and promise, we entrust our prayers to the one who always receives them; through Jesus Christ, our wisdom and companion. **Amen.**

Sharing of the Peace

Offering

Great Thanksgiving p. 152

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 our thanks and praise.**

Preface p. 153

**Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might,
heav'n and earth are full of your glory. Hosanna in the highest.
Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.
Hosanna in the highest.**

Words of Institution

Christ has died. Christ is risen. Christ will come again. p. 153

Lord's Prayer

Let us pray:

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, for ever and ever. Amen.

Communion p. 154

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, grant us peace.

Distribution of Holy Communion

Communion Hymns: Here I Am Lord (#474)
I Come With Joy (#482)
Let Us Break Bread Together (#471)

Prayer after Communion

Blessing

Sending Hymn: Leaning On The Everlasting Arms (#774)

Dismissal

Postlude

PRAYER LIST

Please keep the following in your prayers for healing:

Jen Bailey	Marie Lentine Douglas	Joe Kuhn	Erica Polito	Beverly Warmin
Michael Botti	Tracey Drew	Naveen Kumar	Kimberly Rickert	Helen Yezusko
Brian Byrnes	Indie Fisher	Donna Leek	Ashley Rosser	Bob Zielsdorf
Randy Cantoral	Rhea Fryor	Rebecca Livingston	Dorcas Schellhas	
Janet Cappuccio	Bob Garner	Donald McClure	Finn Schureman	
Sandra DeRitis	Angela Guedes	Joanne McVelli	Frank Siderio III	
Barbara Doelling	Stan Harmer	Melanie Miles	Eric Sprengel	
Helen Dominic	Valerie Hoffmann	Kent Montford	Janice Stronski	
Frank Donovan	Tracey Kelly	Sue Murphy	Bill Todt	
Rosemarie Doucette	Eunice Knopp	Renate Murray	George Vaneman, Sr.	

Please notify the office if you want to add or remove a person from this list.

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

Sunday	10:00 am	Summer Sunday Morning Church Service
	11:30 am	Band Rehearsal
Wednesday	7:00 pm	Band Rehearsal
Thursday	7:00 pm	Chancel Choir Rehearsal
Ongoing		Shelf Stable Milk Collection Diaper Collection for Baby Pantry, Holy Communion, Berlin
Sunday, August 31st	11:00 am	Summer Sundays in the Ed. Building
Thursday, September 4th	7:00 pm	Resume Chancel Choir Rehearsal
Sunday, September 7th	9:30 am	Begin Regular Sunday Morning Worship Service
Sunday, September 7th	10:30 am	Band Rehearsal
Sunday, September 7th	10:45 am	Sunday School /CIA Rally Day
Sunday, September 7th	After Worship	God's Work, Our Hands.
Monday, September 8th	7:00 pm	Council Meeting in the Parish House
Tuesday, September 9th	7:00 pm	Bible Study in the Parish House
Friday, September 12th	7:00 pm	God's Monsters Story Telling and Bonfire
Saturday, September 13th	11:30 am	Community Luncheon in the Ed. Building
Wednesday, September 17th	7:00 pm	Grief Gathering in the Parish House Tea Room
Friday, September 19th	7:00 pm	BINGO in the Ed. Building
Saturday, September 27th	1:00 pm	St. John's 24th Annual Golf Outing

Please note: All activities, dates and times are subject to change.

ALTAR FLOWER DEDICATION

Altar Flowers are available for dedication for \$30. Please fill out the envelope located in the pew rack at least one week before you wish to dedicate the flowers. The card may be placed in the offering plate or left in the office. Please be sure to note the date on the white board in the Narthex. Please see Pat Reed to make payment.

JUST A REMINDER . . .

**We are accepting donations of
Shelf Stable Milk for Our Lady of Peace Food Bank.**

Donations in the form of cash or check will also be welcome.



HOLY COMMUNION LUTHERAN CHURCH OF BERLIN BABY PANTRY NEED



BABY DIAPERS
(especially larger sizes)

Collection will take place
in the Narthex.



CHANCEL CHOIR REHEARSAL

**Resumes on Thursday
September 4th at 7:00 pm!**

**sunday
school**
Rally Day!

MARK YOUR CALENDAR!

September 7th • 10:45 am

GOD'S WORK. OUR HANDS. September 7th



Tuesday, September 9th

at 7:00 pm

in the Parish House

Please join us!

BIBLE STUDY



**GOD'S MONSTERS BONFIRE
AND STORY TELLING**

September 12th on the Church Grounds

More information to come.



NOTHING BRINGS PEOPLE

together

LIKE GOOD FOOD

COMMUNITY LUNCHEON

**Saturday, September 13th
at 11:30 in the Ed. Building.**

All are welcome!



FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 19TH

@ 7:00 PM

IN THE ED BUILDING

Please note: All activities, dates and times are subject to change.

1 As we gath-er at your ta-ble, as we lis-ten to your word,
 2 Turn our wor-ship in-to wit-ness in the sac-ra-ment of life;
 3 Gra-cious Spir-it, help us sum-mon oth-er guests to share that feast

help us know, O God, your pres-ence; let our hearts and minds be stirred.
 send us forth to love and serve you, bring-ing peace where there is strife.
 where tri-um-phant Love will wel-come those who had been last and least.

Nour-ish us with sa-cred sto-ry till we claim it as our own;
 Give us, Christ, your great com-pas-sion to for-give as you for-gave;
 There no more will en-vy blind us nor will pride our peace de-stroy,

teach us through this ho-ly ban-quet how to make Love's vic-t'ry known.
 may we still be-hold your im-age in the world you died to save.
 as we join with saints and an-gels to re-peat the sound-ing joy.

Text: Carl P. Daw Jr., b. 1944

Music: *Oude en Nieuwe Hollandse Boerenlities en Contradansen*, 1710; arr. Julius Röntgen, 1855–1932

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IN BABILONE

87 87 D

Here I Am, Lord

574



1 "I, the Lord of sea and sky, I have heard my peo - ple cry.
2 "I, the Lord of snow and rain, I have borne my peo - ple's pain.
3 "I, the Lord of wind and flame, I will tend the poor and lame.



All who dwell in dark and sin my hand will save.
I have wept for love of them. They turn a - way.
I will set a feast for them. My hand will save.



I, who made the stars of night, I will make their dark-ness bright.
I will break their hearts of stone, give them hearts for love a - lone.
Fin-est bread I will pro-vide till their hearts be sat - is - fied.



Who will bear my light to them? Whom shall I send?"
I will speak my word to them. Whom shall I send?"
I will give my life to them. Whom shall I send?"



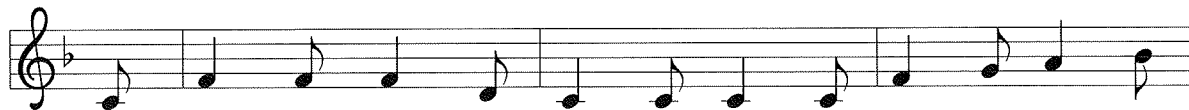
Here I am, Lord. Is it I, Lord? I have heard you



call-ing in the night. I will go, Lord, if you



lead me. I will hold your peo - ple in my heart.



1 I come with joy, a child of God, for - giv - en, loved, and
 2 I come with Chris - tians far and near to find, as all are
 3 As Christ breaks bread, and bids us share, each proud di - vi - sion
 4 The Spir - it of the ris - en Christ, un - seen, but ev - er
 5 To - geth - er met, to - geth - er bound by all that God has



free, the life of Je - sus to re - call in
 fed, the new com - mu - ni - ty of love in
 ends. The love that made us, makes us one, and
 near, is in such friend - ship bet - ter known, a -
 done, we'll go with joy, to give the world the



love laid down for me, in love laid down for me.
 Christ's com - mu - nion bread, in Christ's com - mu - nion bread.
 strang - ers now are friends, and strang - ers now are friends.
 live a - mong us here, a - live a - mong us here.
 love that makes us one, the love that makes us one.

Let Us Break Bread Together

471

1 Let us break bread to - geth - er on our knees;
2 Let us drink wine to - geth - er on our knees;
3 Let us praise God to - geth - er on our knees;

The first system of the song features a treble and bass staff in B-flat major (two flats). The melody is in the treble staff, and the accompaniment is in the bass staff. The lyrics are for three parts: 1. Let us break bread to - geth - er on our knees; 2. Let us drink wine to - geth - er on our knees; 3. Let us praise God to - geth - er on our knees;.

let us break bread to - geth - er on our knees.
let us drink wine to - geth - er on our knees.
let us praise God to - geth - er on our knees.

The second system continues the melody and accompaniment from the first system. The lyrics are: let us break bread to - geth - er on our knees. let us drink wine to - geth - er on our knees. let us praise God to - geth - er on our knees.

Refrain
When I fall on my knees, with my face to the ris - ing

The Refrain section begins with the word 'Refrain' in italics. The melody and accompaniment continue. The lyrics are: When I fall on my knees, with my face to the ris - ing.

sun, O Lord, have mer - cy on me.

The final system of the song features the melody and accompaniment. The lyrics are: sun, O Lord, have mer - cy on me.

Text: African American spiritual
Music: African American spiritual

BREAK BREAD TOGETHER
10 10 and refrain

What a Fellowship, What a Joy Divine

Leaning on the Everlasting Arms

- 1 What a fel - low-ship, what a joy di - vine, lean-ing on the ev-er-last-ing arms;
 2 Oh, how sweet to walk in this pil-grim way, lean-ing on the ev-er-last-ing arms;
 3 What have I to dread, what have I to fear, lean-ing on the ev-er-last-ing arms?



what a bless-ed-ness, what a peace is mine, lean-ing on the ev-er-last-ing arms.
 oh, how bright the path grows from day to day, lean-ing on the ev-er-last-ing arms.
 I have bless-ed peace with my Lord so near, lean-ing on the ev-er-last-ing arms.

*Refrain*

Lean - ing, lean - ing, safe and se-cure from all a - larms;



Lean - ing on Je - sus, lean - ing on Je - sus,



lean - ing, lean - ing, lean-ing on the ev - er - last-ing arms.



lean - ing on Je - sus, lean - ing on Je - sus,

Save Time . . . no need for checks or envelopes

ELCA-Endorsed Tithe.ly giving platform enables you to tithe online or using the app.

- From your checking account or using your debit/credit card
- One-time donation or set up for recurring giving
- Designate specific ministry for your donation
- Scan the QR code to get started
- For assistance or questions, contact Tom Schofield or Henry Fickenscher



ST. JOHN'S 24TH ANNUAL CHARITY GOLF TOURNAMENT

Saturday, September 27th • White Oaks Country Club

Proceeds to Benefit St. John's Monthly Community Outreach Luncheons

For more information, please contact Joe Antonelli at
609-579-4207 or email to 33miracle@comcast.net

ST. JOHN EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH

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ST. JOHN'S STAFF

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Deacons: Betsey Eley/Ken Weaver
Administrative Coordinator: Pat Reed
Treasurer: Henry Fickenscher
Head Usher: Ted Adams

Music Director/Choirmaster: Janice Smith
Instrumental Music Director: Ken Weaver
Sexton: Betsey Eley
Webmaster: Tom Schofield
Publications Director: Marie Fickenscher