

# St. John Lutheran Church

Carry  
the  
cross and  
follow  
me

LUKE 14:27



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# ST. JOHN EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH

The Rev. Tammy P. Harmer

Deacon Betsey Eley & Deacon Ken Weaver

13TH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST • SEPTEMBER 7, 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: We Are Called (#720)

## 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:

*Direct us, O Lord God, in all our doings with your continual help, that in all our works, begun, continued, and ended in you, we may glorify your holy name; and finally, by your mercy, bring us to everlasting life, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.*

## **Word**

### **First Reading: Deuteronomy 30:15-20**

<sup>15</sup> See, I have set before you today life and prosperity, death and adversity. <sup>16</sup> If you obey the commandments of the Lord your God that I am commanding you today, by loving the Lord your God, walking in his ways, and observing his commandments, decrees, and ordinances, then you shall live and become numerous, and the Lord your God will bless you in the land that you are entering to possess. <sup>17</sup> But if your heart turns away and you do not hear, but are led astray to bow down to other gods and serve them, <sup>18</sup> I declare to you today that you shall perish; you shall not live long in the land that you are crossing the Jordan to enter and possess. <sup>19</sup> I call heaven and earth to witness against you today that I have set before you life and death, blessings and curses. Choose life so that you and your descendants may live, <sup>20</sup> loving the Lord your God, obeying him, and holding fast to him; for that means life to you and length of days, so that you may live in the land that the Lord swore to give to your ancestors, to Abraham, to Isaac, and to Jacob.

Word of God, word of life.

**Thanks be to God.**

## **Psalm 1**

**Response: "They are like trees planted by streams of water."**

<sup>1</sup> Happy are they who have not walked in the counsel of the wicked, nor lingered in the way of sinners, nor sat in the seats of the scornful!

<sup>2</sup> **Their delight is in the law of the Lord, and they meditate on God's teaching day and night. R**

<sup>3</sup> They are like trees planted by streams of water, bearing fruit in due season, with leaves that do not wither; everything they do shall prosper.

<sup>4</sup> **It is not so with the wicked; they are like chaff which the wind blows away.**

<sup>5</sup> Therefore the wicked shall not stand upright when judgment comes, nor the sinner in the council of the righteous.

<sup>6</sup> **For the Lord knows the way of the righteous, but the way of the wicked shall be destroyed. R**

## **Second Reading: Philemon 1-21**

<sup>1</sup>Paul, a prisoner of Christ Jesus, and Timothy our brother, To Philemon our dear friend and co-worker,

<sup>2</sup>to Apphia our sister, to Archippus our fellow soldier, and to the church in your house:

<sup>3</sup>Grace to you and peace from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ.

<sup>4</sup>When I remember you in my prayers, I always thank my God <sup>5</sup>because I hear of your love for all the saints and your faith toward the Lord Jesus. <sup>6</sup>I pray that the sharing of your faith may become effective when you perceive all the good that we may do for Christ. <sup>7</sup>I have indeed received much joy and encouragement from your love, because the hearts of the saints have been refreshed through you, my brother.

<sup>8</sup>For this reason, though I am bold enough in Christ to command you to do your duty, <sup>9</sup>yet I would rather appeal to you on the basis of love—and I, Paul, do this as an old man, and now also as a prisoner of Christ Jesus. <sup>10</sup>I am appealing to you for my child, Onesimus, whose father I have become during my imprisonment. <sup>11</sup>Formerly he was useless to you, but now he is indeed useful both to you and to me. <sup>12</sup>I am sending him, that is, my own heart, back to you. <sup>13</sup>I wanted to keep him with me, so that he might be of service to me in your place during my imprisonment for the gospel; <sup>14</sup>but I preferred to do nothing without your consent, in order that your good deed might be voluntary and not something forced. <sup>15</sup>Perhaps this is the reason he was separated from you for a while, so that you might have him back forever, <sup>16</sup>no longer as a slave but more than a slave, a beloved brother—especially to me but how much more to you, both in the flesh and in the Lord.

<sup>17</sup>So if you consider me your partner, welcome him as you would welcome me. <sup>18</sup>If he has wronged you in any way, or owes you anything, charge that to my account. <sup>19</sup>I, Paul, am writing this with my own hand: I will repay it. I say nothing about your owing me even your own self. <sup>20</sup>Yes, brother, let me have this benefit from you in the Lord! Refresh my heart in Christ. <sup>21</sup>Confident of your obedience, I am writing to you, knowing that you will do even more than I say.

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 14:25-33**

The holy gospel according to St. Luke.

**Glory to you, O Lord.**

<sup>25</sup>Now large crowds were traveling with [Jesus;] and he turned and said to them, <sup>26</sup>“Whoever comes to me and does not hate father and mother, wife and children, brothers and sisters, yes, and even life itself, cannot be my disciple. <sup>27</sup>Whoever does not carry the cross and follow me cannot be my disciple. <sup>28</sup>For which of you, intending to build a tower, does not first sit down and estimate the cost, to see whether he has enough to complete it? <sup>29</sup>Otherwise, when he has laid a foundation and is not able to finish, all who see it will begin to ridicule him, <sup>30</sup>saying, ‘This fellow began to build and was not able to finish.’ <sup>31</sup>Or what king, going out to wage war against another king, will not sit down first and consider whether he is able with ten thousand to oppose the one who comes against him with twenty thousand? <sup>32</sup>If he cannot, then, while the other is still far away, he sends a delegation and asks for the terms of peace. <sup>33</sup>So therefore, none of you can become my disciple if you do not give up all your possessions.”

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

Gracious God, we come to you in prayer for the church, the world, and all in need.

*A brief silence.*

We pray for the church to follow in your ways, that it may be a witness to your love for all people. Help us choose all that is life-giving and confront the forces of death.

God of grace, **receive our prayer.**

We pray for creation, that it may be cherished and nurtured. Sustain farmlands, animals, and waters; restore places affected by calamities; and shield coastlands from rising seas.

God of grace, **receive our prayer.**

We pray for those in authority. Grant them wisdom to govern justly and compassion to care for the marginalized. Equip them for actions that further the common good.

God of grace, **receive our prayer.**

We pray for those who are sick, hungry, unhoused, or lonely (especially). May they find healing through your love and the care of those around them. Lead us to be your hands and feet in the world.

God of grace, **receive our prayer.**

We pray for this congregation, that we may be united in love and faith. Refresh our hearts in Christ, and deepen our support of one another. We pray that our sharing of faith may transform lives.

God of grace, **receive our prayer.**

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.

God of grace, **receive our prayer.**

We thank you for those who have died and now dwell with the saints. Surround them with your divine mercy, that they find peace and rest in your loving embrace.

God of grace, **receive our prayer.**

We entrust these prayers to you, O God, in the name of Jesus Christ, our redeemer and friend.

**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 Is Bread (#483)  
Break Now The Bread of Life (#515)  
Let Us Break Bread Together (#471)

## Prayer after Communion

## Blessing

**Sending Hymn:** Lord Be Glorified (#744)

## Dismissal

## Postlude

### PRAYER LIST

*Please keep the following in your prayers for healing:*

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

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

### ALTAR FLOWERS DEDICATION FOR SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 7<sup>th</sup>

*In honor of all St. John's children for a safe and successful school year, dedicated by: Sunday School Teachers.*

## CALENDAR OF EVENTS

Sunday	9:30 am	Sunday Morning Worship Service
	10:30 am	Band Rehearsal
Wednesday	7:00 pm	Band Rehearsal
Ongoing		Shelf Stable Milk Collection Diaper Collection for Baby Pantry, Holy Communion, Berlin
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.



## CHURCH COUNCIL MEETING

**Monday, September 8<sup>th</sup>  
7:00 pm in the Parish House**



# **Bible Study** Tuesday, September 9<sup>nd</sup> at 7:00 pm in the Parish House



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

**September 12<sup>th</sup> on the Church Grounds**  
**More information to come.**



NOTHING BRINGS PEOPLE  
*together*  
LIKE GOOD FOOD

## **COMMUNITY LUNCHEON**

**Saturday, September 13<sup>th</sup>**  
**at 11:30 in the Ed. Building.**

**All are welcome!**



## **GRIEF GATHERING**

**WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 17<sup>TH</sup>**  
**7:00 PM IN THE PARISH TEA ROOM**

**ALL ARE WELCOME!**



**FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 19<sup>TH</sup>**

**@ 7:00 PM**

**IN THE ED BUILDING**

**MORE INFO TO COME!**

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



# We Are Called

720



1 Come! Live in the light! Shine with the joy and the love of the  
 2 Come! O - pen your heart! Show your . . mer - cy to all those in  
 3 Sing! Sing a new song! Sing of that great day when all will be



Lord! We are called to be light for the king - dom, to  
 fear! We are called to be hope for the hope - less so  
 one! God will reign, and we'll walk with each oth - er as



live in the free - dom of the cit - y of God.  
 ha - tred and blind - ness . . . will be . . . no more.  
 sis - ters and broth - ers . . . u - nit - ed in love.



*Refrain*  
 We are called to act with jus - tice, we are called to



love ten - der - ly; we are called to serve one an -



oth - er, to walk hum - bly with God.



1 Here is bread, here is wine, Christ is with us, he is with us.  
 2 Here is grace, here is peace, Christ is with us, he is with us.  
 3 Here we are, joined in one, Christ is with us, he is with us.



Break the bread, taste the wine, Christ is with us here.  
 Know his grace, find his peace, feast on Je - sus here.  
 We'll pro - claim till he comes Je - sus cru - ci - fied.



In this bread there is heal - ing, in this cup is life for - ev - er.



In this mo - ment, by the Spir - it, Christ is with us here.

Text: Graham Kendrick, b. 1950

Music: Graham Kendrick

Text and music © 1991 Make Way Music, admin. by Music Services in the Western Hemisphere

HERE IS BREAD

3 3 4 4 3 3 5 and refrain

1 Break now the bread of life, dear Lord, to me, as once you  
 2 Bless your own word of truth, dear Lord, to me, as when you  
 3 You are the bread of life, dear Lord, to me, your ho - ly

broke the loaves be - side the sea. Be - yond the sa - cred page  
 blessed the bread by Gal - i - lee. Then shall all bond-age cease,  
 word the truth that res - cues me. Give me to eat and live

I seek you, Lord; my spir - it waits for you, O liv - ing Word.  
 all fet - ters fall; and I shall find my peace, my All - in - All!  
 with you a - bove; teach me to love your truth, for you are love.

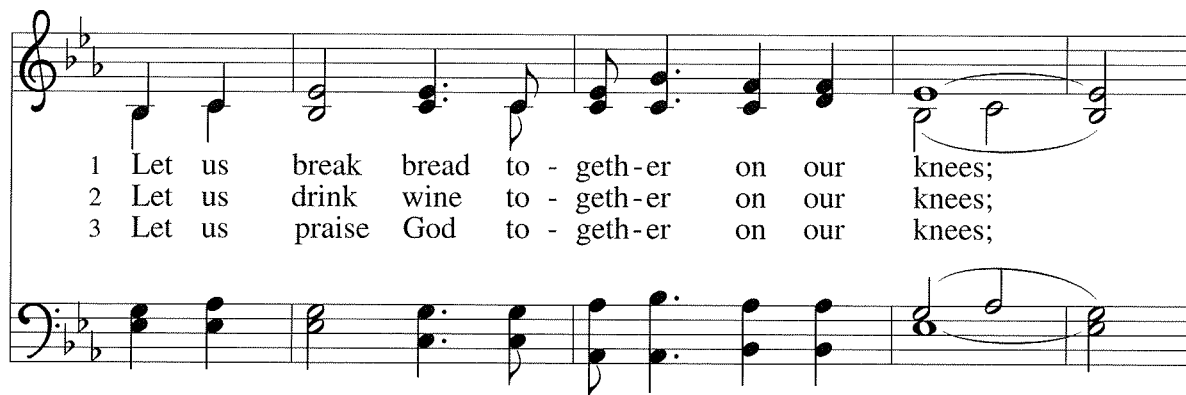
Text: Mary A. Lathbury, 1841–1913, alt.  
 Music: William F. Sherwin, 1826–1888

BREAD OF LIFE  
 6 4 6 4 D



# 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;

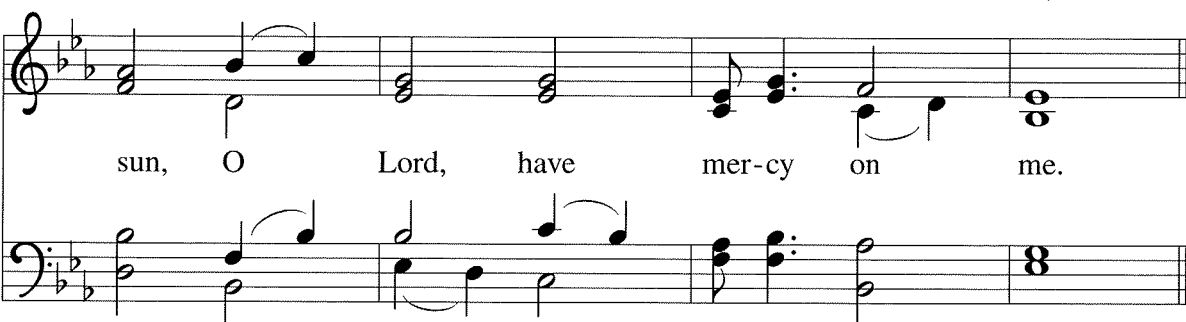


let us break bread to - geth - er on our knees.  
let us drink wine to - geth - er on our knees.  
let us praise God to - geth - er on our knees.

*Refrain*



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



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

744

## Lord, Be Glorified

1 In my life, Lord, be glo-ri - fied, be glo-ri - fied;  
2 In our song, Lord, be glo-ri - fied, be glo-ri - fied;  
3 In your church, Lord, be glo-ri - fied, be glo-ri - fied;  
4 In your world, Lord, be glo-ri - fied, be glo-ri - fied;

in my life, Lord, be glo-ri - fied to - day.  
in our song, Lord, be glo-ri - fied to - day.  
in your church, Lord, be glo-ri - fied to - day.  
in your world, Lord, be glo-ri - fied to - day.

The musical score is written for four voices (Soprano, Alto, Tenor, Bass) and piano accompaniment. It is in the key of D major (two sharps) and 4/4 time. The first system contains the first four lines of the lyrics, and the second system contains the next four lines. The piano accompaniment is written in the bass clef and provides a harmonic foundation for the vocal parts.

Text: Bob Kilpatrick, b. 1952

Music: Bob Kilpatrick

Text and music © 1978 Bob Kilpatrick Music, assigned 1998 to The Lorenz Corporation

BE GLORIFIED

4 4 4 4 6

## **Save Time . . . no need for checks or envelopes**

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

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- 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 24<sup>TH</sup> ANNUAL CHARITY GOLF TOURNAMENT**

**Saturday, September 27<sup>th</sup> • White Oaks Country Club**

*Proceeds to Benefit John's Monthly Community Outreach Luncheons*

For more information, please contact Joe Antonelli at  
609-579-4207 or email to [33miracle@comcast.net](mailto:33miracle@comcast.net)

## **ST. JOHN EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH**

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**Website: [www.stjohnselc1002.org](http://www.stjohnselc1002.org)**

### **ST. JOHN'S STAFF**

**Pastor:** The Rev. Tammy Harmer  
**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