

St John's Lutheran Church – Bennington
Church 291-6225
Website: www.stjohnsbennington.com
Pastor Beth A. Olson 319-483-8135
THIS WEEK AT ST JOHN'S

- Sunday: 27th - Sunday School – 9 AM
Worship – 10 AM
- Monday: 28th - Pastor in Office – 10 AM
Quilting – 9 AM
- Wednesday: 30th - Pastor in Office – 4 PM
Confirmation – 7 PM
- Thursday: 1st - Brenda in Office – 9 AM
Pastor in Office – 10 AM
- Sunday: 4th - Sunday School – 9 AM
Worship w/ Communion – 10 AM
Bible Distribution Starts – 3rd Graders
Fall Theological Conference Starts – evening

About today: Jesus’ parable about two sons who don’t do what they say reveals surprises in the reign of God. In the reading from Ezekiel the people claim the ways of the Lord are unfair, while God offers repentance and new life. Paul urges us to look to Christ as a model of humility, putting the interests of others above our own. Nourished by the broken bread and shared cup, we offer our lives for the sake of our needy world. (Sundays and Seasons)

Bibles for third grade students will be distributed October 4 and 11. Receiving Connect Bibles will be Emersyn Hoing, Connor Kitch and Sophia Nelson. These are the bibles used for Grades 4-6 in Sunday School.

With the expansion of a third section for Sunday School, we needed spiff up the classrooms. That included cleaning out the T-shirt box that has been floating around since 2025! T-shirts are now laid out in the fellowship hall according to size. There’s a few kid-sized Thrivent T-Shirts and a variety to child and adult sizes of the 2025 Dunkerton Days parade footprint T-shirts when the theme included “Barefeet.” Take one, share one, wear one!

Did you know? Hymn 644 was written by Canadian church musician Andrew Donaldson for both practical and theological reasons. Theological because setting biblical texts to music is part of his job as a church musician and practical because the Presbyterian Church in Canada was looking for a paraphrase of 1 Corinthians 13 that could be sung to the English folk tune O Waly Waly. (pps. 490-491, Hymnal Companion to ELW.)

Prayer of the Day Eighteenth Sunday after Pentecost 9/27/26
God of love, giver of life, you know our frailties and failings. Give us your grace to overcome them, keep us from those things that harm us, and guide us in the way of salvation, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen

Ministers of Worship

TODAY: NEXT WEEK:
Accompanist: Ahan Tandon Accompanist: Pastor Beth
Lector: Jessica Huntley Lector: Jeff Seamans
Zoom Operator: Lukas Nelson Zoom Operator: Denise Pierce
Acolyte: Kinzley Stafford Acolyte: Hannah Zuck
Ushers: Chris and Renee’ Hesse Ushers: Larry and Dawn Best
Communion Servers: Kim Rigdon, Jessica Huntley

Fellowship

TODAY: NEXT WEEK:
Alivia Stafford Clayton and Hannah
Family Zuck Family

October Altar Guild: Kathy Mixdorf (Jim), Penny Teisinger, Brittany Nelson, Allyson Kitch

Attendance

Last Sunday’s Attendance: 80 plus 2 Zoom
Last Month Attendance Average: 37

This morning in Sunday School students started in the sanctuary for large group opening and then broke off into their classes for lesson and craft. Today’s story was “Two Sons in the Vineyard,” from Matthew 21: 23-32. Theme for this lesson was “Action.”

St. John’s WELCA serves up their Chicken and Noodles Lunch-to-Go meal from 11-12 today! The meal includes chicken and noodles, roll, relish and bar. Free Will Offering – will help fund a combination water fountain / bottle-filler. Thanks to all who pre-ordered by signing up!_Didn’t get your RSVP in on time? Check toward the end of the serving time to see if they have leftovers.

Travel Fun Fall Field Trip with NE IA Women of the ELCA is Saturday, October 17. Come join in an adventure exploring Waterloo / Cedar Falls sites. RSVP by October 1. See bulletin board for further details.

Remember, O LORD, your compassion and love. –Psalm 25:6

Order of Service
Blue Book

Prelude
GATHER
Welcome and Announcements
Gathering Song ELW # 531
#Greeting p. 46
#Scripture Song p. 47
#Prayer of the Day (see left)
Children’s Message
WORD
Scripture Readings
First Lesson: Ezekiel 18:1-4, 25-32
Second Lesson: Philippians 2:1-13
#Gospel acclamation p. 48
#The Gospel: Matthew 21:23-32
Sermon
Hymn of the Day ELW # 644
#Apostles’ Creed p. 49
#Confession and Forgiveness p. 50
#Sharing the Peace
Offering
#Offertory Song p. 50
#Offertory Prayer p. 51
#Prayers of Intercession
#The Lord’s Prayer p. 52
SEND
#Blessing p. 53
Sending Song: ELW # 517
Kids meet pastor in back during last verse of song to help; congregation response is “And have fun doing it!”
#Dismissal p. 53
#Postlude
- Please stand as you are able
WOV - Blue Book
ELW – Cranberry Book