

**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: 31st - Worship - 9 AM  
Monday: 1st - Office closed // Happy Labor Day!  
Wednesday: 3rd - Pastor in Office - 4 PM  
Confirmation Orientation - 7 PM  
Thursday: 4th - Brenda in Office - 9 AM  
Pastor in Office - 10 AM  
Sunday: 7th - **WELCOME SUNDAY!**  
Worship w/ Communion - **10 AM**  
Potluck meal and service projects to follow!

*About today: Invited and inviting—that is the nature of the church. By God’s grace in holy baptism we have a place at Christ’s banquet table. When, by the power of that same Spirit, humility and mutual love continue among us, the church can be more inviting still. (Sundays and Seasons)*

**Welcome to new accompanist** Ahan Tandon! Ahan is a student of Dr. Suzanne Torkelson and is now part of the rotation of accompanists here at SJB. Thank you for bringing your talents to St. John’s, Ahan!

**Thanks to our gardeners** who continue to share their farm produce with us. If you have some to share, bring it in; if you need some, take some.

**With school started**, please be extra careful of the children walking and biking to school. Honor the stop signs and double check the crosswalks.

**3rd Grade Bible Distribution** will be on Sunday, Sept. 28. We’re grateful we can help families keep their baptismal promises! Receiving bibles this year will be Lincoln Anderson, Beau Billington and Evelyn Speer.

**Did you know? Hymn 532, *Gather Us In***, celebrates “an incarnational understanding of God’s presence,” that God is present where people come together in welcome. It was written by Marty Haugen in 1979 after he was inspired by a hymn from two Dutch colleagues who had created worship music for a creative Amsterdam church. Note especially how the hymn is constructed in pairings, and how God is present in all that happens and gathers us in, regardless of status. An especially meaningful word as we hold our Catholic siblings in prayer following the horrific violence at Annunciation Catholic Church, Minneapolis, during Mass when children, teachers and families were praying as part of their opening week of school.

**Prayer of the Day**      **Twelfth Sunday after Pentecost**      **8/31/25**  
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

**Ministers of Worship**

- TODAY:**      **NEXT WEEK:**  
Accompanist: Ahan Tandon      Accompanist: Alex Speer  
Lector: Bob Hansen      Lector: Jerry Mixdorf  
Zoom Operator: TBD      Zoom Operator: Bobbi Seamans  
Acolyte: Deacons      Acolyte: Gracie Kienast  
Usher: Jerry Mixdorf      Ushers: Gayle Wolff &  
Julie Mixdorf  
Communion Servers: Joe and Teresa Stafford

**Fellowship**

- TODAY:**      **NEXT WEEK**  
Colin and Kai Snyder      Gracie Kienast  
Family      Family

**Attendance**

Last Sunday’s Attendance: 30 plus 2 Zoom  
Last Month Attendance Average: 40

**Confirmation Orientation** - is this Wednesday, Sept. 3, 7 PM. This is for students in grades 7 and 8 along with a parent or grandparent who needs to attend. Confirmation resumes on Wednesday, Sept. 10, 7 PM.

**“God’s Work. Our Hands” Sunday** is next Sunday, Sept. 7, starting at 10 AM with worship. We’ll have a potluck lunch and service projects after worship. Projects include assembling the school backpacks and starting to clean the tombstones in the cemetery. If you have ice cream pails to share and bristle brushes for scrubbing, we’d appreciate it. We will ONLY be using warm water for this first round of cleaning. We’d love to have children and teens involved with all of these projects!

**Sunday School Resumes** on Sunday, Sept. 14, 9 AM. We will use the Whirl Lectionary curriculum again this year. We’re also planning to have two classes: Littles: Preschool / Kindergarten and Bigs: grades 1 and up. Classroom help will be needed; please let Bethany know of your availability.

***Please be reminded that church moves to 10 am next Sunday, Sept. 7. Potluck and service projects follow!***

**The righteous are merciful  
and full of compassion.  
—Psalm 112:4**

**Order of Service**  
**Blue Book**

- Prelude  
**GATHER**  
Welcome and Announcements  
**Gathering Song**      **ELW # 526**  
#Greeting      p. 46  
#Scripture Song      p. 47  
#Prayer of the Day (see left)  
Children’s Message

**WORD**

- Scripture Readings  
First Lesson: Proverbs 25:6-7  
Second Lesson: Hebrews 13:1-8, 15-16  
#Gospel acclamation      p. 48  
#The Gospel: Luke 14:1, 7-14  
Sermon  
**Hymn of the Day**      **ELW # 532**  
#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 # 716**  
***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