

**The Tenth Sunday after Pentecost**  
**August 17, 2025, 8:30 A.M.**  
**St. John's Lutheran Church**

**Announcements**

**Prelude**

*How Firm a Foundation*

arr. Robert A. Hobby

**Ringling of the Church Bell**

**Confession and Forgiveness**

page 116-117

L: Blessed be the holy Trinity, one God, who forgives all our sin, whose mercy endures forever. **C: Amen.**

L: God of all mercy and consolation, come to the help of your people, turning us from our sin to live for you alone. Give us the power of your Holy Spirit that we may confess our sin, receive your forgiveness, and grow into the fullness of Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

**C: Amen.**

L: Let us confess our sin in the presence of God and of one another. 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.**

L: God, who is rich in mercy, loved us even when we were dead in sin, and made us alive together with Christ. By grace you have been saved. In the name of Jesus Christ, your sins are forgiven. Almighty God strengthen you with power through the Holy Spirit, that Christ may live in your hearts through faith.

**C: Amen.**

**Gathering Hymn**

*How Firm a Foundation*

ELW #796

**Greeting and Kyrie**

*"In peace, let us pray..."*

page 147-148

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.**

L: In peace, let us pray to the Lord. **C: Lord, have mercy.**

L: For the peace from above, and for our salvation, let us pray to the Lord. **C: Lord, have mercy.**

L: 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.**

L: For this holy house, and for all who offer here their worship and praise, let us pray to the Lord. **C: Lord, have mercy.**

L: Help, save, comfort and defend us gracious Lord. **C: Amen**

L: 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.**

Prayer of the Day: L: O God, judge eternal, you love justice and hate oppression, and you call us to share your zeal for truth. Give us courage to take our stand with all victims of bloodshed and greed, and, following your servants and prophets, to look to the pioneer and perfecter of our faith, your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. C: Amen.

### First Reading: Jeremiah 23:23-29

<sup>23</sup> Am I a God near by, says the Lord, and not a God far off? <sup>24</sup> Who can hide in secret places so that I cannot see them? says the Lord. Do I not fill heaven and earth? says the Lord. <sup>25</sup> I have heard what the prophets have said who prophesy lies in my name, saying, "I have dreamed! I have dreamed!" <sup>26</sup> How long? Will the hearts of the prophets ever turn back—those who prophesy lies and who prophesy the deceit of their own heart? <sup>27</sup> They plan to make my people forget my name by their dreams that they tell one another, just as their ancestors forgot my name for Baal. <sup>28</sup> Let the prophet who has a dream tell the dream, but let the one who has my word speak my word faithfully. What has straw in common with wheat? says the Lord. <sup>29</sup> Is not my word like fire, says the Lord, and like a hammer that breaks a rock in pieces?

### Psalm 82

L: <sup>1</sup> God stands to charge the divine council assembled,  
giving judgment in the midst of the gods:  
C: <sup>2</sup> **"How long will you judge unjustly,  
and show favor to the wicked?**  
L: <sup>3</sup> Save the weak and the orphan;  
defend the humble and needy;  
C: <sup>4</sup> **rescue the weak and the poor;  
deliver them from the power of the wicked.**  
L: <sup>5</sup> They do not know, neither do they understand; they wander about in darkness;  
all the foundations of the earth are shaken.  
C: <sup>6</sup> **Now I say to you, 'You are gods,  
and all of you children of the Most High;**  
L: <sup>7</sup> nevertheless, you shall die like mortals,  
and fall like any prince.' "  
C: <sup>8</sup> **Arise, O God, and rule the earth,  
for you shall take all nations for your own.**

### Second Reading: Hebrews 11:29—12:2

<sup>29</sup> By faith the people passed through the Red Sea as if it were dry land, but when the Egyptians attempted to do so they were drowned. <sup>30</sup> By faith the walls of Jericho fell after they had been encircled for seven days. <sup>31</sup> By faith Rahab the prostitute did not perish with those who were disobedient, because she had received the spies in peace.

<sup>32</sup> And what more should I say? For time would fail me to tell of Gideon, Barak, Samson, Jephthah, of David

and Samuel and the prophets, <sup>33</sup> who through faith conquered kingdoms, administered justice, obtained promises, shut the mouths of lions, <sup>34</sup> quenched the power of fire, escaped the edge of the sword, were made strong out of weakness, became mighty in war, put foreign armies to flight. <sup>35</sup> Women received their dead by resurrection. Others were tortured, refusing to accept release, in order to obtain a better resurrection. <sup>36</sup> Others suffered mocking and flogging and even chains and imprisonment. <sup>37</sup> They were stoned to death; they were sawn in two; they were killed by the sword; they went about in skins of sheep and goats, destitute, persecuted, tormented <sup>38</sup> of whom the world was not worthy. They wandered in deserts and mountains and in caves and holes in the ground.

<sup>39</sup> Yet all these, though they were commended for their faith, did not receive what was promised, <sup>40</sup> since God had provided something better so that they would not, apart from us, be made perfect.

<sup>12:1</sup> Therefore, since we are surrounded by so great a cloud of witnesses, let us also lay aside every weight and the sin that clings so closely, and let us run with perseverance the race that is set before us, <sup>2</sup> looking to Jesus, the pioneer and perfecter of faith, who for the sake of the joy that was set before him endured the cross, disregarding its shame, and has taken his seat at the right hand of the throne of God.

Special Music

*Walk Softly*

John D. Horman

Sarah Hagen and Sarah Bieber Sweeney, Vocal Duet

Children's Message

Gospel Acclamation

*"Alleluia. Lord to whom shall we go?"*

page 151

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

**The Gospel: Luke 12:49-56**

**Glory to you, O Lord/Praise to you, O Christ.**

[Jesus said:] <sup>49</sup> "I have come to cast fire upon the earth, and how I wish it were already ablaze! <sup>50</sup> I have a baptism with which to be baptized, and what constraint I am under until it is completed! <sup>51</sup> Do you think that I have come to bring peace to the earth? No, I tell you, but rather division! <sup>52</sup> From now on five in one household will be divided, three against two and two against three; <sup>53</sup> they will be divided:

father against son

and son against father,

mother against daughter

and daughter against mother,

mother-in-law against her daughter-in-law

and daughter-in-law against mother-in-law."

<sup>54</sup> He also said to the crowds, "When you see a cloud rising in the west, you immediately say, 'It is going to rain,' and so it happens. <sup>55</sup> And when you see the south wind blowing, you say, 'There will be scorching heat,' and it happens. <sup>56</sup> You hypocrites! You know how to interpret the appearance of earth and sky, but why do you not know how to interpret the present time?"

Sermon

Confession of Faith

Apostles' Creed

Page 127

**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.

### The Offering Hymn

*Be Thou My Vision*

ELW #793

### Offering Prayer

L: Holy God, gracious and merciful, you bring forth food from the earth and nourish your whole creation. Turn our hearts toward those who hunger in any way, that all may know your care; and prepare us now to feast on the bread of life, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. **C: Amen**

### Prayers of the Church:

L: Hear us, O God. **C: Your mercy is great.**

### The Words of Institution

### The Lord's Prayer

page 112

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 Songs:

*Come, Let Us Eat* ELW #491; *For the Bread Which You Have Broken* ELW #494

**Prayer Following Communion** L: We give you thanks, almighty God, that you have refreshed us through the healing power of this gift of life. In your mercy, strengthen us through this gift, in faith toward you and in fervent love toward one another; for the sake of Jesus Christ our Lord. **C: Amen**

### Benediction

P: May the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ and the gifts of his body and blood, strengthen, keep, and unite us, now and forever. The Lord bless you and keep you. The Lord's face shine upon you with grace and mercy. The Lord look upon you with favor and give you peace, in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit. Go in peace. Serve the Lord. **C: Thanks be to God.**

### Closing Hymn

*God, When Human Bonds Are Broken*

ELW #603, vss. 1-4

### Postlude

*Toccata in E Minor*

Johann Pachelbel

**Activities this Week at St. John's**

Sun, Aug 17	8:30am & 10am 10am-5pm 7pm
Mon, Aug 18	11am
Tues, Aug 19	6pm  7pm
Wed, Aug 20	9am-noon
Sun, Aug 24	8:30am 9:30am 7pm

**Aug 17, 2025 to Aug 24, 2025**

Worship Services w/comm  
Goeke use of Fellowship Hall  
Mens Choir  
Richard Hermeier memorial service  
Bd Trustees mtg  
Bd Deacons mtg  
Church Council mtg  
Tying quilts  
Worship Service  
Reception in Fellowship Hall  
Mens Choir

**General Funds (undesignated)****Jan 1 – Aug 12, 2025**

Actual Income	\$126,933
Actual Expenses	108,195

**Jan 1 –August 31, 2025**

Budget Expenses	133,329
-----------------	---------

**Attendance**

Last Sunday	95
2025 Average	96
2024 Average	90

---

Greeters	8:30am 10am	Marilyn Henkels
Ushers	8:30am 10am	Bill Roe family
Readers	8:30am 10am	Dan Treangen Lori Hesse
Comm Prep	8:30am 10am	Linda Groe Sherry Knudtson, Kasey Iverson
Comm Asst	8:30am  10am	Dan Treangen, Greg & Ann Hagensick Lori Hesse
Secretary		Rhonda Barr
Custodians		John & Sharon Roe
Organist/Director of Music		James H. Bieber
Pastor		Bryan Robertson

**Radio Broadcast Ministry** –Today's radio broadcast is given by Mary Ellingson of Decorah. Thank you for your continuing support of this outreach ministry. Join us on Sunday mornings on KNEI 103.5 at 8:30am. **Note: you have the option of selecting a hymn of your choice for the service you sponsor.**

***Our heartfelt sympathies*** to Rhonda & Dave Bahr and family in the passing of Rhonda's mother, Betty Engrav recently.

***The Board of Education*** is looking for Sunday School teachers to help teach and someone to direct the Christmas program this year. If you're interested, please contact Bailey Benson 563 380-1378.

***All of our women are invited to donate*** to the Pennies for Presents container in the narthex today. We will have this container available every third Sunday of each month through November. The money we gather will once again go toward Christmas gifts for three boys and three girls next December. You may also drop off your donation in the Church Office during the week. *Thank you for caring for others.*

***Troop 64 Boy Scout Omelet Breakfast:*** Sunday, Sept 7, 2025, Allamakee Co Fairground Pavillon, Waukon. Serving 8am-noon. Dine in or carry out. Made to order omelets, hashbrowns, fresh cinnamon rolls, coffee, juice or milk. \$10 Advance Tickets / \$12 at the door

Volunteers for **Aug 24** service:

Ushers for August: 8:30am Bill & Becky Roe family / ~~10am~~:

Greeters: 8:30am Tom & Carroll Schreiber / ~~10am~~

Readers: 8:30am Mary Jackson / ~~10am~~

Comm Prep: 8:30am / ~~10am~~

Comm Asst: 8:30am / ~~10am~~