

Fourth Sunday after Pentecost
June 21, 2026, 8:30 AM/10:00 AM
St. John's Lutheran Church

*Bulletins are subject to change based on the Pastors' discretion

Prelude

Ringing of the Church Bell

Announcements

Welcome and Introduction

P: The ELCA teaches that all creation is a gift from God, who lovingly sustains and blesses the earth and all its creatures. Humans are created in God's image and called to care for the earth as God cares for us, serving as stewards who nurture and protect creation rather than exploit it. This stewardship reflects our relationship with God and one another, emphasizing interconnectedness, equality, and hope for the renewal of all creation in Christ. As followers of Jesus, we are called to act with love and justice so that all of creation may flourish.

Opening Words (words from Job 12:7, Luke 21)

P: Just ask the animals,

C: and they will teach you...

P: Birds in the sky,

C: and they will tell you;

P: let the fish in the sea inform you. And look to all the trees, for:

C: Which to all these does not know that to God belong wisdom and power.

Prayer of Approach and Confession

P: God, Life's Sustainer:

C: in the mystery of love;

P: God, known in Jesus

C: ruling by serving;

P: God, the Empowering:

C: freeing your people. We bless you today, God the Three.

ALL:...with whom we pray. Amen

Kyrie

P: Jesus was sent to bring healing and peace for all burdened with sin. **C: Lord, have mercy.**

P: Jesus comes to call all sinners to himself. **C: Christ, have mercy.**

P: Jesus is seated at the right hand of God, interceding for all creation. **C: Lord, have mercy.**

Declaration of Forgiveness

P: ...let it be so: **All: Amen!**

Gathering Hymn

Morning Has Broken (Hymn is listed)

ELW #556

Morning Has Broken

1 Morn - ing has bro - ken like the first morn - ing; black - bird has
 2 Sweet the rain's new fall, sun - lit from heav - en, like the first
 3 Mine is the sun - light! Mine is the morn - ing, born of the

spo - ken like the first bird. Praise for the sing - ing! Praise for the
 dew - fall on the first grass. Praise for the sweet - ness of the wet
 one light E - den saw play! Praise with e - la - tion, praise ev - 'ry

morn - ing! Praise for them, spring - ing fresh from the Word!
 gar - den, sprung in com - plete - ness where God's feet pass.
 morn - ing, God's re - cre - a - tion of the new day!

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.

Prayer of the Day P: Let us pray. **C:...God, forever and ever. Amen**

First Reading: Wisdom 13: 1-9

¹ For all people who were ignorant of God were foolish by nature, and they were unable from the good things that are seen to know the one who exists, nor did they recognize the artisan while paying heed to his works; ² but they supposed that either fire or wind or swift air or the circle of the stars or turbulent water or the luminaries of heaven were the gods that rule the world. ³ If through delight in the beauty of these things people assumed them to be gods, let them know how much better than these is their Lord, for the author of beauty created them. ⁴ And if people were amazed at their power and working, let them perceive from them how much more powerful is the one who formed them. ⁵ For from the greatness and beauty of created things comes a corresponding perception of their Creator. ⁶ Yet these people are little to be blamed, for perhaps they go astray while seeking God and desiring to find him. ⁷ For while they live among his works, they keep searching and trust in what they see because the things that are seen are beautiful. ⁸ Yet again, not even they are to be excused, ⁹ for if they had the power to know so much that they could investigate the world, how did they not more quickly find the Lord of these things?

Psalm: Psalm 104:24-34 (read responsively)

P: ²⁴ O Lord, how manifold are your works! In wisdom you have made them all; the earth is full of your creatures.

C: ²⁵ There is the sea, great and wide; creeping things innumerable are there, living things both small and great.

P: ²⁶ There go the ships and Leviathan that you formed to sport in it.

C: ²⁷ These all look to you to give them their food in due season;

P: ²⁸ when you give to them, they gather it up; when you open your hand, they are filled with good things.

C: ²⁹ When you hide your face, they are dismayed; when you take away their breath, they die and return to their dust.

P: ³⁰ When you send forth your spirit, they are created, and you renew the face of the ground.

C: ³¹ May the glory of the Lord endure forever; may the Lord rejoice in his works—

P: ³² who looks on the earth and it trembles, who touches the mountains and they smoke.

C: ³³ I will sing to the Lord as long as I live; I will sing praise to my God while I have being.

P: ³⁴ May my meditation be pleasing to him, for I rejoice in the Lord.

Second Reading: Colossians 1: 15-20

¹⁵ He is the image of the invisible God, the firstborn of all creation, ¹⁶ for in him all things in heaven and on earth were created, things visible and invisible, whether thrones or dominions or rulers or powers—all things have been created through him and for him. ¹⁷ He himself is before all things, and in him all things hold together. ¹⁸ He is the head of the body, the church; he is the beginning, the firstborn from the dead, so that he might come to have first place in everything. ¹⁹ For in him all the fullness of God was pleased to dwell, ²⁰ and through him God was pleased to reconcile to himself all things, whether on earth or in heaven, by making peace through the blood of his cross.

The Gospel: Matthew 6:24-34

P: The holy gospel according to Matthew. **All: Glory to you, O Lord**

P: ²⁴"No one can serve two masters, for a slave will either hate the one and love the other or be devoted to the one and despise the other. You cannot serve God and wealth. ²⁵"Therefore I tell you, do not worry about your life, what you will eat or what you will drink, or about your body, what you will wear. Is not life more than food and the body more than clothing? ²⁶Look at the birds of the air: they neither sow nor reap nor gather into barns, and yet your heavenly Father feeds them. Are you not of more value than they? ²⁷ And which of you by worrying can add a single hour to your span of life? ²⁸ And why do you worry about clothing? Consider the lilies of the field, how they grow; they neither toil nor spin, ²⁹yet I tell you, even Solomon in all his glory was not clothed like one of these. ³⁰But if God so clothes the grass of the field, which is alive today and tomorrow is thrown into the oven, will he not much more clothe you—you of little faith? ³¹Therefore do not worry, saying, 'What will we eat?' or 'What will we drink?' or 'What will we wear?' ³²For it is the gentiles who seek all these things, and indeed your heavenly Father knows that you need all these things. ³³But seek first the kingdom of God and his righteousness, and all these things will be given to you as well. ³⁴"So do not worry about tomorrow, for tomorrow will bring worries of its own. Today's trouble is enough for today.

P: The Gospel of the Lord. **C: Praise to you, O Christ.**

Children's Message

Message

Pastor Mark Oehlert

Hymn of the Day This Is My Father's World (Hymn below)

ELW #824

This Is My Father's World



1 This is my Fa-ther's world, and to my lis-t'ning ears all
2 This is my Fa-ther's world; the birds their car-ols raise; the
3 This is my Fa-ther's world; oh, let me not for-get that,



na - ture sings, and round me rings the mu - sic of the spheres.
morn - ing light, the lil - y white, de - clare their mak - er's praise.
though the wrong seems oft so strong, God is the rul - er yet.



This is my Fa-ther's world; I rest me in the thought of
This is my Fa-ther's world; he shines in all that's fair. In the
This is my Fa-ther's world; why should my heart be sad? The



rocks and trees, of skies and seas; his hand the won - ders wrought.
rus - tling grass I hear him pass; he speaks to me ev-'ry-where.
Lord is king, let heav - en ring; God reigns, let earth be glad!

A Creation-Inclusive Statement of Christian Faith

P: Let us profess our faith together

C: We trust Love who is God before us, beyond us and urgently now, Maker, Remaker of life, and life's limits. God: working Incarnate in Earth; God: attending to birth; decisive, co-operative, with seas and with skies. God for justice by choice, to be praised by all breathing... We trust Jesus our Friend Incarnate in Earth; Who lives life with creatures who knows of their frailness through flesh, blood, and birth and dependence on care. Christ who loves, heals, and warns and repurposes Scriptures; Christ who honours the welcome of God in the stranger, God's wisdom in creatures, our kin. Jesus: Welcomed with ranches, then nailed to the Tree. Abandoned to Death: Earth alone could receive him. The third Day Christ rose to Life Renewed: and is with us as surely as Sky; We trust God the Spirit Wild Wind of beginnings beyond our control and yet harnessed for justice; Reshaping perceptions. Breath of life; Spirit of healing and forgiveness: God with us urgently now.

Prayers of the Church: P: God of grace.... **C: hear our prayer.....**

Sharing of the Peace: P: The Peace of the Lord be with you always. **C: And also with you.**

P: Let us greet each other and share the peace of Christ with each other, either with a wave, a fist bump, handshake, ...however you prefer using the words "Peace be with you".

MEAL

God feeds us with the presence of Jesus Christ.

Offering

Thank you for your gifts and offerings. Whether you give electronically, or by cash or check in an envelope, we greatly appreciate your continued support of God's ministries.

Faith of Our Fathers

Faith of our fa - thers, liv - ing still in spite of dun - geon,
 The mar - tyrs, chained in pris - ons dark, were still in heart and
 Faith of our fa - thers! We will love both friend and foe in
 fire, and sword. Oh, how our hearts beat high with joy
 con - science free; and blest would be their chil - dren's fate
 all our strife; pro - claim thee too, as love knows how,
Refrain
 when - e'er we hear that glo - rious word. Faith of our fa - thers,
 if they, like them, should die for thee. and faith - ful life.
 ho - ly faith, we will be true to thee till death.

Offering Prayer:

P:through Christ our Lord C: Amen.

The Great Thanksgiving (spoken)

pg. 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

Holy, Holy, Holy (sung)

page 153

All: Holy, Holy, Holy Lord, Lord God of Pow'r 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.

Thanksgiving at the Table

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, forever and ever. Amen.

Invitation to Communion

8:30am Communion Music

10:00am Communion Distribution Hymns ELW #781 Children of the Heavenly Father
 ELW#798 Will You Come and Follow Me

Post-Communion BlessingAmen

Prayer After Communion:

P: Let us pray. May this sacrament of unity which we have received, O God, increase communion with you and with our brothers and sisters, so that, as we await the new heavens and the new earth, we may learn to live in harmony with all creatures. Through Christ our Lord. **C: Amen.**

Sending: P: *God blesses us and sends us in mission to the world.*

Blessing

P: May the everlasting God shield you wherever you go. And the blessing of God be upon you,

C: the blessing of the Giver of life.

P: The blessing of God. be upon you,

C: the blessing of the Giver of love.

P: The blessing of God be upon you,

C: the blessing of the Spirit of peace.

P: The blessing of the Trinity be upon you now and evermore.

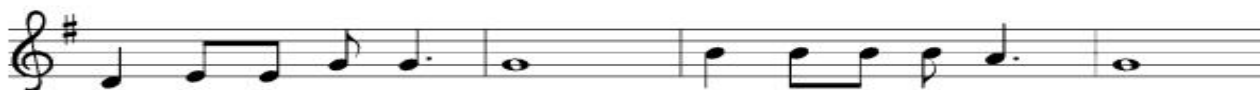
C: Amen.

Sending Song

This Little Light of Mine

ELW #677

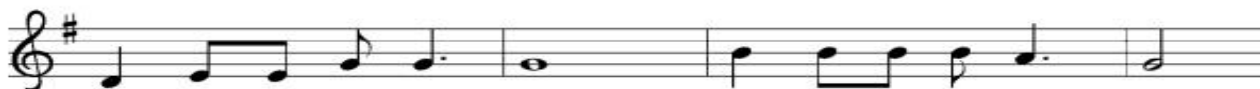
This Little Light of Mine



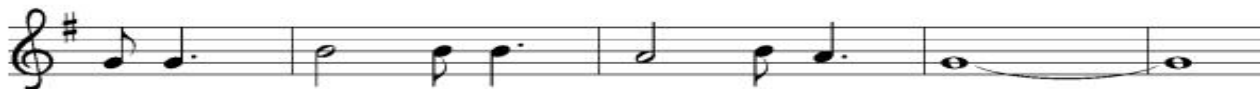
1 This lit - tle light of mine, I'm goin' - a let it shine;
2 Ev - 'ry - where I go, I'm goin' - a let it shine;
3 Je - sus gave it to me, I'm goin' - a let it shine;



this lit - tle light of mine, I'm goin' - a let it shine;
ev - 'ry - where I go, I'm goin' - a let it shine;
Je - sus gave it to me, I'm goin' - a let it shine;



this lit - tle light of mine, I'm goin' - a let it shine,
ev - 'ry - where I go, I'm goin' - a let it shine,
Je - sus gave it to me, I'm goin' - a let it shine,



let it shine, let it shine, let it shine.
let it shine, let it shine, let it shine.
let it shine, let it shine, let it shine.

Dismissal: P: Go In Peace. Christ is with you

C: Thanks be to God.

Postlude:

Activities this Week at St. John's**June 21, 2026, to June 28, 2026**

Sun, June 21	Happy Father's Day	
	8:30am	Worship Services on the church lawn, bring a chair, W/Comm, *Pennies for Presents, Pastor Mark Oehlert
	9:30am	Bible Study
	10:00am	Worship Services, W/Comm, *Pennies for Presents
Tues, June 23	1:00pm	Nursing Home Visit Northgate
	2:00pm	Good Samaritan Society
	2:45pm	Evergreen Court
Sun, June 28	8:30am & 10:00am	Worship Services, Pastor Combs-Lay
	9:30am	Bible Study

General Funds (undesignated)**Attendance****Jan 1 – June 18, 2026,**

2026 Average 101

Actual Income \$79,554.82

Previous Week 77

Jan 1 – June 30, 2026,

2025 Average 103

Budget Expenses \$103,438.98

Greeters	8:30 am	Bill & Becky Roe
	10:00 am	
Readers	8:30 am	Linda Groe
	10:00 am	Melissa Clarke
Ushers/Acolytes	8:30 am	Bill & Becky Roe Family
	10:00 am	Eric Kirkeby
Communion Assistant	8:30am	David & Wendy Sanderson, Dan Treangen
	10:00am	Melissa Clarke
Communion Prep	8:30am	Ron Dahlstrom, Vickie Larson
	10:00am	Evonne Kistler, Jill Kistler
Secretary		Lana Dahlstrom
Custodians		John & Sharon Roe
Organist/Director of Music		James H. Bieber
Pastor		Mark Oehlert

St. John's Lutheran Church Events

If you are unable to join us in person, you may listen on the radio or watch online through the St. John's Waukon Facebook page. Bulletins may be found on our website <https://stjohnswaukon.net/> To find out more about our special projects here at St John's visit the website and look at the MORE drop-down tab.

Radio Broadcast Ministry Today's radio broadcast is sponsored by Trent and Lori Jacobs, in honor of Rudy Hesla, the late Merrill Jacobs, and all fathers. We are grateful for the support of our radio ministry and for everyone who helps share God's Word with our community each week. If you would like to sponsor a broadcast in honor of a loved one or to celebrate a birthday, anniversary, or other special occasion, please contact the church office at 563-568-3623. Sponsors are also welcome to choose a hymn for the service. We invite you to join us each Sunday morning at 8:30 a.m. on **KNEI 103.5 FM**. Thank you for listening, and God's blessings to you.

Join us for **Sunday Bible Study!** with a study of men and women of the Bible. Come gather with us in the lounge at 9:30 am, between services. Visit the resource page on our website.

St John's has a **Prayer Chain** If you would like to be added or have someone to add to our prayer chain contact the Church Office at 563.568.3623 or email stjohnswaukon@gmail.com Your information will be shared with the coordinator and will be kept confidential.

Our bulletin board is filled with wonderful **thank-you** notes from organizations and families who have been blessed by the support and generosity of our congregation. Be sure to take a moment to stop by and read them. Thank you for making a difference in the lives of others through your kindness and care!

Video security system has been upgraded. If you would like to contribute to this improvement, Checks may be made payable to St. John's, with "Security System" noted in the memo line.

FEED THE KIDS: Summer is almost here and we need your help! Monetary donations may be made by cash or check payable to Feed the Kids/Zion Church these can be placed in the collection OR sent to the office. A sign-up sheet for kid-friendly desserts and workers is in the Narthex. When July comes around - we could use garden fresh produce.

St. John's is helping with the **Baby Bottle Campaign** which is a key fundraiser runs from now to Father's Day for the **Hope Family Resource Center (HFRC)**, a program of Hope Pregnancy Ministries. This initiative relies on "pocket change" to provide life-affirming medical care, education, and material support to local families. To donate see the display in the Narthex.

St. John's LYO Fishing In The Park Please join us for fishing, games, and campfire in the park. If the weather is not conducive for outdoor activities, we will have indoor activities planned in the fellowship hall. When: **Saturday, July 25** Time: 4 pm – 8 pm Where: Waukon city park. All ages welcome. Bring a friend and/or fishing supplies if you have them. If under 16, a fishing license is not required. A light meal will be provided. **Please sign up by Sunday, July 12** in the church Narthex or email mosesbec@yahoo.com or call/text Becky at 563-880-6917 or Chris at 563-568-7959 so we can plan food accordingly.

Help Wanted: Feed the Kids Representative for 2027: Responsibilities are securing donations and volunteers for the third week of July. Cindy Wuebker has the experience to ease the transition. Please contact her at 712-661-9149 if interested or have any questions. This is a 2-year term, so it is now time to find someone new to serve in this position.

Upcoming Service Reminders Details will be shared closer to services

August 16 We will be having our worship service at 8:30am followed by a brunch in the fellowship Hall. No 10am service.

Volunteers for June 28, 2026:

Ushers/Acolytes: 8:30am Bill & Becky Roe Family; 10:00am Eric Kirkeby

Greeters: 8:30am Lee & Chris Ellickson; 10:00am

Readers: 8:30am Linda Halverson; 10:00am Vickie Larson

Community Events – see bulletin board for more information

Join the Frankville Presbyterian Church PW for food and fellowship at their **Ice Cream Social, Wednesday, June 24, 4:30 to 7:00 p.m.** Meal menu: maid-rite or grilled chicken sandwich, potato salad, orange tapioca salad, homemade pie, ice cream, beverages. \$12 per meal. Dine in or carry out.

Bakesale Fundraiser to benefit Dolan Jones **Saturday, June 27** 9am-1pm. First Presbyterian Church 204 W Main St, Waukon. Dolan, the son of Greg & Maura Jones, was diagnosed with Hodgkins Lymphoma in April and is undergoing chemo treatments. All proceeds go on helping Dolan with his medical expenses.

Laura Ingalls Wilder Park & Museum, Burr Oak, IA Presents **50th Anniversary of Laura Days** on **Saturday, June 27**. Special guest appearance by Alison Arnglim (Nellie Olson) in the Little House on the Prairie TV series. See the bulletin for more information on the schedule of activities or their website at www.lauraingallswilder.us

Waterloo Ridge Lutheran Church Ice Cream Social Sunday **July 12, 2026** Worship Service - 10:00am Social 11:00 am - 1:00 pm. Free Will Offering. Menu: BBQ, Coney Dogs, Hot Dogs, Potato Salad, Chips, Pie, Desserts, Ice Cream, Beverages. Carry outs Available. This event is supported by Thrivent Financial.