

Nineteenth Sunday after Pentecost
October 4, 2026, 8:30 AM/10:30 AM
St. John's Lutheran Church

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

Prelude

Fairest Lord Jesus
Youth Bell Choir

Arr. Patricia Hurlbutt

Ringling of the Church Bell
Announcements

Confession and Forgiveness

P: Blessed be the holy Trinity, ☩ one God, who pours love into our hearts and healing upon the earth.

C: Amen.

P: Let us confess our sin to God.

P: Confident that God justifies us by grace through faith, Let us confess our sin.

P: Compassionate God,

C: we confess that we struggle to embody your goodness in the world and in our own hearts. Creation groans from overuse. Jealousy and bitterness strain our relationships. Indifference keeps us from seeking justice. Divisions disrupt your call to show genuine love to others. Turn our hearts back to you. Restore our world and reconcile us to one another. Renew us to live as your holy people, following the way of Jesus Christ. Amen.

P: Hear this good news: We have peace with God through ☩ Jesus Christ, in whom there is no condemnation, but only forgiveness and the promise of eternal life. Receive freely this healing gift of grace.

C: Amen.

Gathering Hymn

When I Survey the Wondrous Cross

ELW #803

Greeting and Kyrie

pp. 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.

Kyrie

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.

The Hymn of Praise (This is the feast)

pp. 149-150

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!

Prayer of the Day:

P: Beloved God, from you come all things that are good. Lead us by the inspiration of your Spirit to know those things that are right, and by your merciful guidance, help us to do them, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

C: Amen.

First Reading: Isaiah 5:1-7

L: ¹ I will sing for my beloved my love song concerning his vineyard: My beloved had a vineyard on a very fertile hill. ² He dug it and cleared it of stones and planted it with choice vines; he built a watchtower in the midst of it and hewed out a wine vat in it; he expected it to yield grapes, but it yielded rotten grapes. ³ And now, inhabitants of Jerusalem and people of Judah, judge between me and my vineyard. ⁴ What more was there to do for my vineyard that I have not done in it? When I expected it to yield grapes, why did it yield rotten grapes? ⁵ And now I will tell you what I will do to my vineyard. I will remove its hedge, and it shall be devoured; I will break down its wall, and it shall be trampled down. ⁶ I will make it a wasteland; it shall not be pruned or hoed, and it shall be overgrown with briars and thorns; I will also command the clouds that they rain no rain upon it. ⁷ For the vineyard of the Lord of hosts is the house of Israel, and the people of Judah are his cherished garden; he expected justice but saw bloodshed; righteousness but heard a cry!

Psalm: Psalm 80:7-15 (read responsively)

P: ⁷ Restore us, O God of hosts; let your face shine upon us, and we shall be saved.

L: ⁸ You have brought a vine out of Egypt; you cast out the nations and planted it.

P: ⁹ You cleared the ground for it; it took root and filled the land.

L: ¹⁰ The mountains were covered by its shadow and the towering cedar trees by its boughs.

P: ¹¹ You stretched out its tendrils to the sea and its branches to the river.

L: ¹² Why have you broken down its wall, so that all who pass by pluck off its grapes?

P: ¹³ The wild boar of the forest has ravaged it, and the beasts of the field have grazed upon it.

L: ¹⁴ Turn now, O God of hosts, look down from heaven;

P: ¹⁵ behold and tend this vine; preserve what your right hand has planted.

Anthem (8:30 Service)

*I'm Yours
Senior Choir*

Gary Chapman

Second Reading: Philippians 3:4b-14

[Paul writes:] ^{4b} If anyone else has reason to be confident in the flesh, I have more: ⁵ circumcised on the eighth day, a member of the people of Israel, of the tribe of Benjamin, a Hebrew born of Hebrews; as to the law, a Pharisee; ⁶ as to zeal, a persecutor of the church; as to righteousness under the law, blameless. ⁷ Yet whatever gains I had, these I have come to regard as loss because of Christ. ⁸ More than that, I regard everything as loss because of the surpassing value of knowing Christ Jesus my Lord. For his sake I have suffered the loss of all things, and I regard them as rubbish, in order that I may gain Christ ⁹ and be found in him, not having a righteousness of my own that comes from the law but one that comes through faith in Christ, the

righteousness from God based on faith. ¹⁰ I want to know Christ and the power of his resurrection and the sharing of his sufferings by becoming like him in his death, ¹¹ if somehow I may attain the resurrection from the dead. ¹² Not that I have already obtained this or have already reached the goal, but I press on to lay hold of that for which Christ has laid hold of me. ¹³ Brothers and sisters, I do not consider that I have laid hold of it, but one thing I have laid hold of: forgetting what lies behind and straining forward to what lies ahead, ¹⁴ I press on toward the goal, toward the prize of the heavenly call of God in Christ Jesus.

Gospel Acclamation

“Alleluia, Lord to whom shall we go?”

page 151

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

All: Glory to you, O Lord/ Praise to You, O Christ!

The Gospel: Matthew 18:15-20

Jesus tells a parable to the religious leaders who are plotting his death, revealing that their plans will, ironically, bring about the fulfillment of scripture.

[Jesus said:] ³³ “Listen to another parable. There was a landowner who planted a vineyard, put a fence around it, dug a winepress in it, and built a watchtower. Then he leased it to tenants and went away. ³⁴ When the harvest time had come, he sent his slaves to the tenants to collect his produce. ³⁵ But the tenants seized his slaves and beat one, killed another, and stoned another. ³⁶ Again he sent other slaves, more than the first, and they treated them in the same way. ³⁷ Then he sent his son to them, saying, ‘They will respect my son.’ ³⁸ But when the tenants saw the son, they said to themselves, ‘This is the heir; come, let us kill him and get his inheritance.’ ³⁹ So they seized him, threw him out of the vineyard, and killed him. ⁴⁰ Now when the owner of the vineyard comes, what will he do to those tenants?” ⁴¹ They said to him, “He will put those wretches to a miserable death and lease the vineyard to other tenants who will give him the produce at the harvest time.” ⁴² Jesus said to them, “Have you never read in the scriptures: ‘The stone that the builders rejected has become the cornerstone; this was the Lord’s doing, and it is amazing in our eyes’? ⁴³ “Therefore I tell you, the kingdom of God will be taken away from you and given to a people that produces its fruits. ⁴⁴ The one who falls on this stone will be broken to pieces, and it will crush anyone on whom it falls.” ⁴⁵ When the chief priests and the Pharisees heard his parables, they realized that he was speaking about them. ⁴⁶ They wanted to arrest him, but they feared the crowds, because they regarded him as a prophet.

Children’s Message

Message

Pastor Mark Oehlert

Confession of Faith

Apostle’s 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.

Offering Hymn: (radio ministry hymn)

When Peace Like a River

ELW #785

Offering Prayer:

P: God of creation, you send rain and the earth springs forth abundantly. All blessings are from you; make us generous with what we have. Use our gifts, our abilities, and our hearts in service to you and in love to our neighbors, today and always.

C: Amen.

Prayers of the Church: P: Lord in Your Mercy..... **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".

The Great Thanksgiving (sung)

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.**

P: It is indeed right, our duty and our joy,..... we praise your name and join their unending hymn

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.

Lamb of God (Agnus Dei) (sung)

page 154

All: 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.

Communion Distribution Hymn:

Jesus Loves Me

ELW#595

For By Grace

ELW#598

Prayer Following Communion:

P: Sustaining God, with this bread and cup, you nourish us with mercy and abundant life. By your Spirit, send us from this table to serve a needy world. Make us living signs of your liberation, healing, and love, following the way of Jesus, in whose name we pray.

C: Amen.

Benediction:

P: The God of love draw you into full accord and one mind, in the body of Christ Jesus.

C: Amen.

P: The God of hope grant you strength and joy in all circumstances through the interceding of the Spirit.

C: Amen.

P: The God of grace ☩ bless you now and forever.

C: Amen

Closing Hymn: *The Church of Christ, in Every Age*

ELW #729

Dismissal: P: Go out in joy. Be led forth in peace.

C: Thanks be to God.

Postlude:

Jesus Lifted Me

African American Spiritual Arr John Helgen

Activities this Week at St. John's**October 4, 2026, to October 11, 2026**

Sun, Oct 4 *Wear Pink*	8:30am	Worship Services, W/Comm, *Noisy Offering, Pastor Mark Oehlert
	9:30am	Coffee/Treats, Bible Study, Sunday School, Sr Vocal Choir
	10:30am	Worship Services, W/Comm, *Noisy Offering, Pastor Mark Oehlert
	7:00pm	Men's Choir
Wed, Oct 7	8:45am	Quilting, Downstairs
	5:30-6:30pm	Confirmation/LYO Pizza @ WWC before Fields of Faith
	6:00pm	Youth Bell Choir
	7:00pm	Senior Bell Choir
Sun, Oct 11	8:30am	Worship Services, Pastor Waldemar Gies
	9:30am	Sunday School, Sr Vocal Choir, Bible Study
	10:30am	Worship Services, Baptism, Pastor Waldemar Gies
	7:00pm	Men's Choir

General Funds (undesignated)**Jan 1 – September 30, 2026,**

Actual Income \$120,731.44

Jan 1 – October 31, 2026,

Budget Expenses \$172,397.47

Attendance

2026 Average 97

Previous Week 126

2025 Average 103

Greeters	8:30 am	Dave & Wendy Sanderson
	10:30 am	
Readers	8:30 am	Matt Teslow
	10:30 am	Jill Kistler
Ushers	8:30 am	Mark & Stacy Stock
	10:30 am	Lyle & Brenda Kurth
Acolytes	8:30 am	Kashton
Communion Assistant	8:30 am	Matt & Dawn Teslow, Rhonda Barr
	10:30 am	Jill Kistler
Communion Prep	8:30 am	Sue Blagsvedt, Bonnie Roe
	10:30 am	Linda Groe
Pastor		Mark Oehlert
Organist/Director of Music		James H. Bieber
Custodians		John & Sharon Roe
Secretary		Lana Dahlstrom

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.

Today we welcome Pastor Mark Oehlert to St. John's Lutheran Church! We are grateful to have him lead us in worship and are thankful for the opportunity to welcome him into our church community.

Please join us in praying that God richly blesses Pastor Mark and his ministry among us. We look forward to all that God has in store!

Today's radio broadcast is sponsored by Maudie Syhlman of Waukon. October is Breast Cancer Awareness Month, and today we bring attention to a topic that is often overlooked but deeply important—male breast cancer. While breast cancer is commonly associated with women, men can also be affected. Though male breast cancer is rare, its impact is real, and increased awareness can make a life-saving difference. We are

grateful for Maudie's support, which helps share God's Word with our community through our weekly radio broadcast. If you would like to sponsor a broadcast in honor or memory 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 invited to select 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!

Quilt tying is held Wednesdays from 8:45AM-noon in the downstairs rooms. Everyone is welcome to join us!

On Saturday, November 7, our quilts and personal care kits will be shipped to Minneapolis. We need volunteers to help unload quilts from vehicles, load them into the semi, and complete forms. This will be at Olson Explosives, Decorah. Please contact the church office to sign up. High school students: This is a great opportunity to earn Orange Cord hours! Thank you for helping with this important ministry!

October newsletters were emailed out, printed copies may be picked up in the Narthex.

Confirmation/LYO will meet at 5:30pm the Wellness Center on Oct 7 prior to Fields of Faith for pizza and fellowship.

Musical Talent Needed St. John's is seeking **individuals or groups of any age** to share their musical talents during worship services. If you sing or play an instrument and would like to participate, please contact the church office.

Sunday School October Schedule: = **Sun, Oct 4, 11 & 18:** Regular Sunday School at 9:30 AM = **Sun, Oct 25:** No Sunday School = **Wed, Oct 28:** ☺ Wednesday Evening Halloween Party at 5:30 PM — Enjoy a light meal, fun, a Halloween party, and Bible study!

Bible Study begins Today at 9:30AM We'll be meeting in the lounge as we explore the Mothers and Daughters of the Bible. Come gather with us in the lounge.

NE IA Women of ELCA Fall Field Trip Oct. 17 Come Join us. Exploring Waterloo/Cedar Falls in Black Hawk County. RSVP TO: Chris VanDeventer, cdvandeven@gmail.com or 515-320-2877. More info on WELCA board.

50th Anniversary Handbell Choir Reunion June 26–27, 2027! We are planning a reunion to reconnect with current and former **youth and adult handbell choir members**. If you were a member—or know someone who was, including those who have moved away—please help us update our contact list. With their permission, send email address to Jim Bieber at bieberinsre@gmail.com or call/text 563-380-5355.

St. John's has a Prayer Chain If you would like to be added or have someone to add 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.

There is a sharing table down by the elevator entrance for produce, plants, eggs etc. Please feel free to take what you need or share items you would like to give to others.

Volunteers for October 11, 2026:

Ushers: 8:30am Mark & Stacy Stock, Dan Low; 10:30am Lyle & Brenda Kurth

Acolytes: 8:30am Joseph

Greeters: 8:30am Tom & Bev Leiran; 10:30am

Readers: 8:30am Dawn Teslow; 10:30am Lori Hesse

Community Events – see bulletin board for more information

EWALU has many upcoming events posted on the bulletin board from Now-Nov.

Fields of Faith, Waukon October 7, 7pm Waukon High School Football Field.

Big Canoe Lutheran Church Meatball Dinner Sun, Oct 18 11am-3pm.

SEW Powerful Sew Day at Robey Memorial Library Oct 24, noon-3pm.

Glenwood Lutheran Church Lutefisk & Meatball Dinner with silent auction, Sun, Oct 25 noon-3pm