

Fourteenth Sunday after Pentecost
August 30, 2026, 8:30 AM/10:00 AM
St. John's Lutheran Church

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

Prelude

How Great Thou Art

Piano Arr. Lorie Line

Ringling of the Church Bell

Announcements

Confession and Forgiveness

P: Blessed be the holy Trinity, ☩ one God, whose compassion endures forever.

C: Amen.

P: Let us confess our sin to God.

P: Compassionate God,

All: we confess to you all our sins. Our burden is heavy, and we cannot free ourselves. In your mercy, call us back to you. Your yoke is easy and your burden is light. Restore us to dwell in your peace. In Christ's name we pray, Amen.

P: Jesus says, "Come to me, all you who are weary and are carrying heavy burdens, and I will give you rest." In the name of God, Father, ☩ Son, and Holy Spirit, your sins are forgiven. Rest in God's love.

C: Amen.

Gathering Hymn

Son of God Eternal Savior

ELW #655

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: O God, we thank you for your Son, who chose the path of suffering for the sake of the world. Humble us by his example, point us to the path of obedience, and give us strength to follow your commands, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

C: Amen.

First Reading: Jeremiah 15:15-21

L: ¹⁵ O Lord, you know; remember me and visit me, and bring down retribution for me on my persecutors. In your forbearance do not take me away; know that on your account I suffer insult. ¹⁶ Your words were found, and I ate them, and your words became to me a joy and the delight of my heart, for I am called by your name, O Lord, God of hosts. ¹⁷ I did not sit in the company of merrymakers, nor did I rejoice; under the weight of your hand I sat alone, for you had filled me with indignation. ¹⁸ Why is my pain unceasing, my wound incurable, refusing to be healed? Truly, you are to me like a deceitful brook, like waters that fail. ¹⁹ Therefore thus says the Lord: If you turn back, I will take you back, and you shall stand before me. If you utter what is precious and not what is worthless, you shall serve as my mouth. It is they who will turn to you, not you who will turn to them. ²⁰ And I will make you to this people a fortified wall of bronze; they will fight against you, but they shall not prevail over you, for I am with you to save you and deliver you, says the Lord. ²¹ I will deliver you out of the hand of the wicked and redeem you from the grasp of the ruthless.

Psalms: 26:1-8 (read responsively)

P: ¹ Give judgment for me, O Lord, for I have lived with integrity; I have trusted in the Lord and have not faltered.

C: ² Test me, O Lord, and try me; examine my heart and my mind.

P: ³ For your steadfast love is before my eyes; I have walked faithfully with you.

C: ⁴ I have not sat with the worthless, nor do I consort with the deceitful.

P: ⁵ I have hated the company of evildoers; I will not sit down with the wicked.

C: ⁶ I will wash my hands in innocence, O Lord, that I may go in procession round your altar,

P: ⁷ singing aloud a song of thanksgiving and recounting all your wonderful deeds.

C: ⁸ Lord, I love the house in which you dwell and the place where your glory abides.

Special Music (8:30 Service)

Thanks Be To God – Stanley Dickson

Vocal Duet: Don Fruechte & Randy Johnson

Second Reading: Romans 12:9-21

L: *Paul presents benchmarks for faithful relationships with Christians and non-Christians. Love is the unflagging standard of our behavior. When we encounter evil, we do not resort to its tactics but seek to overcome it with good. While Christians cannot control the actions and attitudes of others, we seek to live at peace with all people.*

⁹ Let love be genuine; hate what is evil; hold fast to what is good; ¹⁰ love one another with mutual affection; outdo one another in showing honor. ¹¹ Do not lag in zeal; be ardent in spirit; serve the Lord. ¹² Rejoice in hope; be patient in affliction; persevere in prayer. ¹³ Contribute to the needs of the saints; pursue hospitality to strangers. ¹⁴ Bless those who persecute you; bless and do not curse them. ¹⁵ Rejoice with those who rejoice; weep with those who weep. ¹⁶ Live in harmony with one another; do not be arrogant, but associate with the lowly; do not claim to be wiser than you are. ¹⁷ Do not repay anyone evil for evil, but take thought for what is noble in the sight of all. ¹⁸ If it is possible, so far as it depends on you, live peaceably with all. ¹⁹ Beloved, never

avenge yourselves, but leave room for the wrath of God, for it is written, "Vengeance is mine; I will repay, says the Lord." ²⁰ Instead, "if your enemies are hungry, feed them; if they are thirsty, give them something to drink, for by doing this you will heap burning coals on their heads." ²¹ Do not be overcome by evil, but overcome evil with good.

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 16:21-28

After Peter confesses that Jesus is "the Messiah, the Son of the living God" (16:16), Jesus reveals the ultimate purpose of his ministry. These words prove hard to accept, even for a disciple whom Jesus has called a "rock."

²¹ From that time on, [after Peter confessed that Jesus was the Messiah,] Jesus began to show his disciples that he must go to Jerusalem and undergo great suffering at the hands of the elders and chief priests and scribes and be killed and on the third day be raised. ²² And Peter took him aside and began to rebuke him, saying, "God forbid it, Lord! This must never happen to you." ²³ But he turned and said to Peter, "Get behind me, Satan! You are a hindrance to me, for you are setting your mind not on divine things but on human things." ²⁴ Then Jesus told his disciples, "If any wish to come after me, let them deny themselves and take up their cross and follow me. ²⁵ For those who want to save their life will lose it, and those who lose their life for my sake will find it. ²⁶ For what will it profit them if they gain the whole world but forfeit their life? Or what will they give in return for their life? ²⁷ "For the Son of Man is to come with his angels in the glory of his Father, and then he will repay everyone for what has been done. ²⁸ Truly I tell you, there are some standing here who will not taste death before they see the Son of Man coming in his kingdom."

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)

Will You Come And Follow Me

ELW #798 VS 1-4

Offering Prayer:

P: Loving God, we offer at your table the gifts of our hearts. Help us take heart in you and share freely of your love, so that all creation can taste your abundance. We ask this in the name of Jesus, through the Spirit abiding with us now and forever.

C: Amen.

Prayers of the Church: P: Merciful God.... **C: receive 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:

Blest Be The Tie That Binds

ELW#656

Will You Let Me Be Your Servant

ELW#659

Prayer Following Communion:

P: Compassionate God, through the gifts of bread and wine our hearts are filled with the abundance of your love. Strengthen us that we, through this holy meal, may share your love freely, as you have shared with us. We ask this in the name of Jesus, through the Spirit nourishing us now and forever.

C: Amen.

Benediction:

P: Creator, Redeemer, Sustainer, ☩ one God, bless, heal, and hold you today and always.

C: Amen.

Closing Hymn:

How Great Thou Art

ELW #856

Dismissal: P: Heaven has come near. Go, share the good news!

C: Thanks be to God.

Postlude:

Chorale

Gordon Young

Activities this Week at St. John's

August 30, 2026, to September 7, 2026

Sun, Aug 30	8:30am	Worship Services, W/Comm, Pastor Mark Oehlert
	9:30am	Bible Study in Lounge, Last Day
	10:00am	Worship Service W/Comm
	7:00pm	Men's Choir
Wed, Sept 2	8:45am	Quilting, Fellowship Hall

	6:00pm	Youth Bell Choir
	7:00pm	Senior Bell Choir
Thurs, Sept 3		WIC Here
Sun, Sept 6	8:30am	Worship Services, W/Comm, *Noisy Offering Pastor Mark Oehlert
	10:00am	Worship Service W/Comm, *Noisy Offering
Mon, Sept 7		Labor Day Church Office Closed for the Holiday

General Funds (undesignated)

Jan 1 – August 26, 2026,

Actual Income \$107,200.72

Jan 1 – August 31, 2026,

Budget Expenses \$137,918.64

Attendance

2026 Average 95

Previous Week 63

2025 Average 103

Greeters	8:30 am	Jeff & Diana Johnson
	10:00 am	
Readers	8:30 am	Linda DeBuhr
	10:00 am	Karen Stamper
Ushers/Acolytes	8:30 am	Dan & Lori Treangen, Donna Wood
	10:00 am	
Communion Assistant	8:30 am	Jens & Jane Kallevang, Chris Stuckman
	10:00 am	Karen Stamper
Communion Prep	8:30 am/10:00 am	Altar Guild
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.

Today we welcome Pastor Mark Oehlert to St. John's Lutheran Church! We are grateful to have him lead us in worship and pray that God richly blesses his ministry among us. Welcome, Pastor Oehlert!

Today's radio broadcast is sponsored by the **Dixie Libbey**. We are grateful for her support of this ministry, which shares God's Word and the message of faith 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.

Join us for **Sunday Bible Study** at **9:30 a.m. in the Lounge**, between worship services. We'll be wrapping up the study of the **men and women of the Bible**.

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.

Quilting on **Wednesdays**, in the Fellowship hall from 8:45 a.m. to noon. Everyone is welcome to join us.

Join us for **St. John's Rieck's Chicken Dinner – Friday, September 11**, from 4:00–7:00 p.m. Dine-in and carry-out meals. **Volunteers Needed!** Sign up on the volunteer sheet in the Narthex. Flyers are also available to help promote the event.

Sunday School is open to children ages 3 years through 8th grade. Invite a friend to join us! **SAVE THE DATES** Sunday, September 13 – 9:30 a.m. Registration & Family Service Project; Sunday, September 20 8:00 & 10:30 a.m. – Blessing of the Backpacks during worship 9:30 a.m. – First Day of Sunday School. We look forward to a wonderful year of growing in faith, learning God’s Word, and building friendships! **SUNDAY SCHOOL TEACHERS NEEDED** You don’t have to teach alone! Partner with another willing teacher. Curriculum and teaching materials are already organized and prepared. Interested in volunteering or learning more? Contact Mary Jo Meyer at 563-568-1796. Thank you for considering!

Confirmation Registration & Informational Meeting September 16 at 7:00 PM, Fellowship Hall Students in **7th–9th grade and their parents** are invited to attend our Confirmation Registration and Informational Meeting. We’ll share important information about the Confirmation program, answer questions, and complete registration. **Confirmation classes begin September 30.** We will also be attending **Worship In the Valley**, at Village Creek Bible Camp on September 20. Free will donation. We will be meeting in the church parking lot at 5pm and car pool. Contact Melissa Clarke for more information.

Imagine More: 2027 ELCA Youth Gathering June 28–July 2, 2027 | Minneapolis, MN Youth currently in grades 8–12 during the 2026–2027 school year, along with adult leaders, are invited to join thousands from across the country for worship, service, learning, and fellowship. Interested in attending? Please contact the Church Office by September 30, 2026. LYO Contacts: Melissa Clarke & Bailey Benson Learn more at <https://www.elca.org/gathering> or pick up a brochure in the Narthex.

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

Postville Fire Relief Effort The **Northeastern Iowa Synod** is partnering with local congregations to assist those affected by the at the AgriStar processing plant fire in Postville. See the **flyer and letter in the Narthex**.

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.

Check Out the VCR Table! The Library is giving away items from its collection. **Please take what you need!** Any remaining items will be donated.

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.

Volunteers for September 6, 2026: Pastor Mark Oehlert

Ushers/Acolytes: 8:30am Russ & Mary Ho Meyer Family; 10:00am

Greeters: 8:30am Meyer Family; 10:00am

Readers: 8:30am Diana Johnson; 10:00am Melissa Clarke

Communion Assistant 8:30 am Dennis & Linda DeBuhr, Joan Moody; 10:00 am Melissa Clarke

Communion Prep 8:30 am Jeff & Diana Johnson; 10:00 am Linda Groe

Community Events – see bulletin board for more information

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

Faith Lutheran Church of Blackhammer Meatball Supper Wed, Sept. 9 5-7pm.

Healthy Steps for Older Adults Sept 10, 9-3, Waukon Wellness Center

Troop 64 Boy Scout **Omelet Breakfast** Sunday Sept 13, Allamakee County Fairgrounds Pavilion

Old West Paint Creek Lutheran **Norwegian Meatball Supper**, Sept 16 serving begins at 4pm, Drive Thru only

Sugar Creek 60th Celebration, Sept 18-20 <https://www.sugarcreekbiblecamp.org/60th-anniversary-celebration/>

Neighbors in Faith Fest: music, fellowship, food, and faith on Sat., September 19 at Calmar Lutheran Church. **Worship In the Valley**, at Village Creek Bible Camp on September 20. Doors open at 5pm. Free will donation.