

Fifteenth Sunday of Pentecost
September 21, 2025, 8:30 A.M.
St. John's Lutheran Church

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

Announcements

Prelude

Gavotte
Elsa Thorstenson, Violin

Jean Becker

Ringling of the Church Bell

Confession and Forgiveness

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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

Take My Life, That I May Be

ELW #685, vs1-4

Greeting and Kyrie

"In peace, let us pray..."

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 wellbeing 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: God among us, we gather in the name of your Son to learn love for one another. Keep our feet from evil paths. Turn our minds to your wisdom and our hearts to the grace revealed in your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. **C: Amen.**

First Reading: Amos 8:4-7

⁴ Hear this, you who trample on the needy,
and bring to ruin the poor of the land,
⁵ saying, "When will the new moon be over
so that we may sell grain,
and the Sabbath,
so that we may offer wheat for sale?
We will make the ephah smaller and the shekel heavier
and practice deceit with false balances,
⁶ buying the poor for silver
and the needy for a pair of sandals
and selling the sweepings of the wheat."
⁷ The LORD has sworn by the pride of Jacob:
Surely I will never forget any of their deeds.

Psalm 113

L: ¹ Hallelujah! Give praise, you servants of the LORD;
praise the name of the LORD.

**C:² Let the name of the LORD be blessed,
from this time forth for- evermore.**

L:³ From the rising of the sun to its going down
let the name of the LORD be praised.

**C:⁴ The LORD is high above all nations;
God's glory above the heavens.**

L:⁵ Who is like the LORD our God,
who sits enthroned on high,

**C:⁶ but stoops to behold
the heavens and the earth?**

L:⁷ The LORD takes up the weak out of the dust
and lifts up the poor from the ashes,

C:⁸ **enthroning them with the rulers,
with the rulers of the people.**

L:⁹ The LORD makes the woman of a childless house
to be a joyful mother of children. Hallelujah!

Second Reading: 1 Timothy 2:1-7

¹ First of all, then, I urge that supplications, prayers, intercessions, and thanksgivings be made for everyone,
² for kings and all who are in high positions, so that we may lead a quiet and peaceable life in all godliness and
dignity. ³ This is right and acceptable before God our Savior, ⁴ who desires everyone to be saved and to come to
the knowledge of the truth. ⁵ For there is one God;
there is also one mediator between God and humankind,
Christ Jesus, himself human, ⁶ who gave himself a ransom for all
—this was attested at the right time.⁷ For this I was appointed a herald and an apostle (I am telling the truth; I
am not lying), a teacher of the gentiles in faith and truth.

Special Music/Anthem

I'm Yours
Senior Choir

Gary Chapman

Gospel Acclamation

"Alleluia. Lord to whom shall we go?"

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

The Gospel: Luke 16:1-13

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

¹ Then Jesus said to the disciples, "There was a rich man who had a manager, and charges were brought to him
that this man was squandering his property. ² So he summoned him and said to him, 'What is this that I hear
about you? Give me an accounting of your management because you cannot be my manager any longer.'
³ Then the manager said to himself, 'What will I do, now that my master is taking the position away from me? I
am not strong enough to dig, and I am ashamed to beg. ⁴ I have decided what to do so that, when I am
dismissed as manager, people may welcome me into their homes.' ⁵ So, summoning his master's debtors one
by one, he asked the first, 'How much do you owe my master?' ⁶ He answered, 'A hundred jugs of olive oil.' He
said to him, 'Take your bill, sit down quickly, and make it fifty.' ⁷ Then he asked another, 'And how much do you
owe?' He replied, 'A hundred containers of wheat.' He said to him, 'Take your bill and make it eighty.' ⁸ And his
master commended the dishonest manager because he had acted shrewdly, for the children of this age are
more shrewd in dealing with their own generation than are the children of light. ⁹ And I tell you, make friends
for yourselves by means of dishonest wealth so that when it is gone, they may welcome you into the eternal
homes.

¹⁰ "Whoever is faithful in a very little is faithful also in much, and whoever is dishonest in a very little is
dishonest also in much. ¹¹ If, then, you have not been faithful with the dishonest wealth, who will entrust to
you the true riches? ¹² And if you have not been faithful with what belongs to another, who will give you what
is your own? ¹³ No slave 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."

Confession of Faith

Apostles' Creed

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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

God, Whose Giving

ELW #678

The 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.

Prayers of the Church: L: God of grace... **C: Receive our prayer**

The Words of Institution

The Lord's Prayer

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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.

Communion Songs: *O Bread of Life from Heaven* ELW #480; *Soul Adorn Yourself With Gladness* ELW #488

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. Amen.

Closing Hymn

Let Justice Flow Like Streams

ELW #717

P: Go in peace. Serve the Lord. **C: Thanks be to God.**

Postlude

'Tis A Gift To Be Simple

Arr. Lorie Line

Activities this Week at St. John's

Sun, Sept 21	8:30am & 10:30am 9:30am
	7pm
Wed, Sept 24	6pm 7pm
Thurs, Sept 25	9am-noon
Sun, Sept 28	8:30am & 10:30am 9:30am 7pm

Sept 21, 2025 to Sept 28, 2025

Worship Services w/comm
Sr Choir, Sun School
Congregational mtg: Call Committee vote
Men's Choir
Youth Bells
Sr Bells
Tying quilts
Worship Services w/Choir
Dedication
Sr Choir, Sunday School
Men's Choir

General Funds (undesignated)**Jan 1 – Sept 16, 2025**

Actual Income	\$144,387
Actual Expenses	130,381

Jan 1 – Sept 30, 2025

Budget Expenses	156,222
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Attendance

Last Sunday	64
2025 Average	97
2024 Average	90

Greeters	8:30am 10:30am	Ron & Linda Dahlstrom
Readers	8:30am 10:30am	Chris Engstrom Linda Groe
Ushers	8:30am 10:30am	Russ Meyer, Bernie Pausch, Dan Treangen Norm Peterson, Donna Wood
Comm Prep	8:30am 10:30am	Chris Ellickson/Dawn Teslow Altar Guild
Comm Assistant	8:30am 10:30am	Nona Sawyer/Dave & Wendy Sanderson Linda Groe
Secretary		Rhonda Barr/Lana Dahlstrom
Custodians		John & Sharon Roe
Organist/Director of Music		James H. Bieber
Pastor		Michael Sherer

Today we welcome Pastor Michael Sherer to St. John's. He is a retired Pastor joining us today from Waverly, IA. Please greet and welcome him.

Radio Broadcast Ministry –Today's radio broadcast is in honor of Virgil & Deb Thorstenson's 51st wedding anniversary. 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.**

As our Congregation is beginning the process to call a pastor, we are asking for volunteers to serve on the Call Committee. Please contact our Council President, Vickie Larson with your questions and interest. We will have a **special Congregational meeting today @ 9:30am to elect Call Committee Members.**

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.*

Fields of Faith on Wed, Oct 8 starting at 7pm at the Waukon High School Football Field. The Key Speaker is Tanner Morgan. No cost to attend and **All Are Welcome!**

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.

Volunteers for Sept 28 service:

Ushers for September: 8:30am Russ Meyer, Bernie Pausch, Dan Treangen /
10:30am: Norm Peterson, Donna Wood
Greeters: 8:30am Dave & Wendy Sanderson / 10:30am
Readers: 8:30am Linda Halvorson / 10:30am Vickie Larson
Comm Prep: 8:30am / 10:30am
Comm Asst: 8:30am / 10:30am