

Seventh Sunday of Easter
May 17, 2026, 8:30 A.M./10:30 A.M
St. John's Lutheran Church

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

Prelude: Youth Bell Choir There is a Balm in Gilead Arr. K. Ledington

Ringing of the Church Bell

Announcements

Confession and Forgiveness

page 116-117

P: In the name of the Father, and of the ☩ Son, and of the Holy Spirit. **C: Amen.**

P: 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.**

P: Let us confess our sin in the presence of God and of one another. Most merciful God,

C: have mercy on us. We confess that we have turned from you and given ourselves into the power of sin. We are truly sorry and humbly repent. In your compassion forgive us our sins, know and unknown, things we have done and things we have failed to do., Turn us again to you, and uphold us by your Spirit, so that we may live and serve you in newness of life through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.

P: 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 *God Is Here vs 1,3,4* *ELW #526*

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 of glory, your Son Jesus Christ suffered for us and ascended to your right hand. Unite us with Christ and each other in suffering and in joy, that all the world may be drawn into your bountiful presence, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.
C: Amen.

First Reading: Acts 1:6-14

⁶ When [the apostles] had come together, they asked [Jesus], “Lord, is this the time when you will restore the kingdom to Israel?” ⁷ He replied, “It is not for you to know the times or periods that the Father has set by his own authority. ⁸ But you will receive power when the Holy Spirit has come upon you, and you will be my witnesses in Jerusalem, in all Judea and Samaria, and to the ends of the earth.” ⁹ When he had said this, as they were watching, he was lifted up, and a cloud took him out of their sight. ¹⁰ While he was going and they were gazing up toward heaven, suddenly two men in white robes stood by them. ¹¹ They said, “Men of Galilee, why do you stand looking up toward heaven? This Jesus, who has been taken up from you into heaven, will come in the same way as you saw him go into heaven.” ¹² Then they returned to Jerusalem from the mount called Olivet, which is near Jerusalem, a Sabbath day’s journey away. ¹³ When they had entered the city, they went to the room upstairs where they were staying: Peter, and John, and James, and Andrew, Philip and Thomas, Bartholomew and Matthew, James son of Alphaeus, and Simon the Zealot, and Judas son of James. ¹⁴ All these were constantly devoting themselves to prayer, together with certain women, including Mary the mother of Jesus, as well as his brothers.

Psalm: 68:1-10, 32-35 (read responsively)

P: ¹ Let God arise, and let God’s enemies be scattered; let those who hate God flee.

C: ² As smoke is driven away, so you should drive them away; as the wax melts before the fire, so let the wicked perish at the presence of God.

P: ³ But let the righteous be glad and rejoice before God; let them also be merry and joyful.

C: ⁴ Sing to God, sing praises to God’s name; exalt the one who rides the clouds; I Am is that name, rejoice before God!

P: ⁵ In your holy habitation, O God, you are a father to orphans, defender of widows;

C: ⁶ you give the solitary a home and bring forth prisoners into freedom; but the rebels shall live in desert places.

P: ⁷ O God, when you went forth before your people, when you marched through the wilderness,

C: ⁸ the earth quaked, and the skies poured down rain, at the presence of God, the God of Sinai, at the presence of God, the God of Israel.

P: ⁹ You sent a bountiful rain, O God; you restored your inheritance when it languished.

C: ¹⁰ Your people found their home in it; in your goodness, O God, you have made provision for the poor.

P: ³² Sing to God, O kingdoms of the earth; sing praises to the Lord.

C: ³³ You ride in the heavens, O God, in the ancient heavens; you send forth your voice, your mighty voice.

P: ³⁴ Ascribe power to God, whose majesty is over Israel; whose strength is in the skies.

C: ³⁵ How wonderful you are in your holy places, O God of Israel, giving strength and power to your people! Blessed be God!

Anthem (8:30 Service) Senior Choir From the Rising of the Sun M. Susan Brown

SECOND READING: 1 Peter 4:12-14; 5:6-11

¹² Beloved, do not be surprised at the fiery ordeal that is taking place among you to test you, as though something strange were happening to you. ¹³ But rejoice insofar as you are sharing Christ’s sufferings, so that you may also be glad and shout for joy when his glory is revealed. ¹⁴ If you are reviled for the name of

Christ, you are blessed, because the spirit of glory, which is the Spirit of God, is resting on you.^{5:6} Humble yourselves, therefore, under the mighty hand of God, so that he may exalt you in due time.⁷ Cast all your anxiety on him, because he cares for you.⁸ Discipline yourselves; keep alert. Like a roaring lion your adversary the devil prowls around, looking for someone to devour.⁹ Resist him, steadfast in your faith, for you know that your brothers and sisters in all the world are undergoing the same kinds of suffering.¹⁰ And after you have suffered for a little while, the God of all grace, who has called you to his eternal glory in Christ, will himself restore, support, strengthen, and establish you.¹¹ To him be the power forever and ever. Amen.

Gospel Acclamation *“Allelulia, Lord to whom shall we go?”*

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

The Gospel: John 17:1-11

Glory to You, O Lord! / Praise to You, O Christ!

P: ¹ After Jesus had spoken these words [to his disciples,] he looked up to heaven and said, “Father, the hour has come; glorify your Son so that the Son may glorify you, ² since you have given him authority over all people, to give eternal life to all whom you have given him. ³ And this is eternal life, that they may know you, the only true God, and Jesus Christ, whom you have sent. ⁴ I glorified you on earth by finishing the work that you gave me to do. ⁵ So now, Father, glorify me in your own presence with the glory that I had in your presence before the world existed.⁶ “I have made your name known to those whom you gave me from the world. They were yours, and you gave them to me, and they have kept your word. ⁷ Now they know that everything you have given me is from you, ⁸ for the words that you gave to me I have given to them, and they have received them and know in truth that I came from you, and they have believed that you sent me. ⁹ I am asking on their behalf; I am not asking on behalf of the world but on behalf of those whom you gave me, because they are yours. ¹⁰ All mine are yours, and yours are mine, and I have been glorified in them. ¹¹ And now I am no longer in the world, but they are in the world, and I am coming to you. Holy Father, protect them in your name that you have given me, so that they may be one, as we are one.”

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

Children’s Message

Message; By the following Graduating Seniors Trudy Baxter, Taylor Jackson, Johnathan Marti, Brent Roe

Confession of Faith

Apostle’s 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.

Offering Hymn:

I Want to Walk as a Child of the Light

ELW#815

Offering Prayer:

P: Merciful God, accept the fruits of our labor, gathered to give you glory. You have set a table before us, a glimpse of that great day when we will hunger and thirst no more. Nourish us with the body and blood of Jesus, that goodness and mercy may follow us and bless the world you love. In the name of Jesus, **C: Amen.**

Blessings of Graduates

P: Dear Lord, We pray for our graduates today and lift them before you. We thank you so much for the work you are continuing to do in their lives. They are a gift to us and to many others. And during this

season of new beginnings, we ask that you would make their way clear. We ask that you would keep their footsteps firm and remind them that you are with them, always. May they sense the freshness of your Spirit over their lives in amazing ways, may they be strengthened, instilled with hope, for the new roads you have in store. We ask for your wisdom and clear direction over their lives, that you would give them understanding beyond their years. Thank you that your timing is perfect. We pray that you would direct their steps, that your plans for them would prosper; that every place you have determined for them to walk would be paved clear. We ask for you to open doors that need to be opened and close each one that should be shut tight. Allow every gift and treasure you have placed inside their lives to grow, develop, and flourish. May they feel your peace and security. 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, hand shake,...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

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.

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, forever and ever. Amen.

Lamb of God (Agnus Dei)

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 Music: *Youth Bell Choir*

Communion Distribution Hymns: *ELW #471 Let Us Break Bread Together; ELW #482 I Come with Joy*

Prayer Following Communion:

P: Holy One, through this meal you have made your home among us and are making all things new. Send us now to speak peace to anxious hearts, to love our enemies, and to bring your healing to the nations. In the name of Jesus, C: **Amen.**

Closing Hymn:

Lord Dismiss Us With Your Blessing

ELW#545

Dismissal: P: Go in peace. Share the Good News! Alleluia!

C: Thanks be to God. Alleluia!

Postlude:

Open Now the Gates of Beauty

Arr. Mark Sedio

Activities this Week at St. John's

May 17, 2026, to May 26, 2026

Sun, May 17 8:30am & 10:30am *Pennies for Presents, Worship Services W/Comm, Pastor Mark Oehlert at the 8:30 Service Graduating Senior Recognition/Baccalaureate Service. Senior Reception following 8:30 Service in the Fellowship Hall.

	9:30am	Bible Study
	7:00pm	Men's Choir
Mon May 18	5:30pm	Board of Trustees
	7:00pm	Church Council
Wed, May 20	8:45-noon	Quilting
	5:30pm	Youth Bell Choir (last one)
Sun, May 24	8:30am&10:00am	Worship Services Pastor Charis Combs-Lay, *summer schedule begins
	9:30am	Bible Study
Tues, May 26	1:00pm	Nursing Home Visit Northgate
	2:00pm	Good Samaritan Society
	2:45pm	Evergreen Court

General Funds (undesignated)

Jan 1 – May 13, 2026,

Actual Income \$65,146.41

Jan 1 – May 31, 2026,

Budget Expenses \$86,199.15

Attendance

2026 Average 101

Previous Week 114

2025 Average 103

Greeters	8:30am	Bill & Sue Blagsvedt
	10:30 am	
Readers	8:30 am	Dave Sanderson
	10:30am	Mary Jackson
Ushers/Acolytes	8:30am	Ron Dahlstrom, David & Wendy Sanderson
	10:30am	
Communion Assistant	8:30am	Cindy Barness
	10:30am	Linda Groe
Communion Prep	8:30am	Linda DeBuhr, Nona Sawyer
	10:30am	Mary Jackson
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/>

Radio Broadcast Ministry Today's radio broadcast is sponsored by church funds graciously given by our listeners and congregation. Thank you for your support. To sponsor a broadcast, contact the church office at 563-568-3623. Sponsors may choose a hymn for the service. Join us on Sundays at 8:30 am on **KNEI 103.5 FM.**

Join us for **Sunday Bible Study!** with a study of men & 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. To find out more about our special projects

here at St John's visit the website and look at the MORE drop-down tab.

St. John's Spring Clean Up Day Sat, May 30, starting at 9:00 am. Join us as we spruce up the church grounds for the season! There are several projects, many hands make light work—your help is greatly appreciated!

Quilting on Wednesdays in the parish hall from 8:45 am to noon. All are welcome! Last day will be May 27.

Vacation Bible School All students' preschool and older are able to participate (preschoolers will need an adult chaperone) Wed June 3 we will be heading to Village Creek Bible Camp. Cost \$20 per child. Meet in church parking lot at 7:45 am will be back around 4:50'ish. More information see the registration forms in the Narthex or on our website. We would like the money and forms by Wed May 27. We are looking for chaperones for the day, Grandparents, aunts, uncles, parents are welcome!

The **Church Services Committee** invites your input to help guide future worship services and programs. Surveys are available in the narthex or on page 9 of the May newsletter. Please include your name and submit one survey per member. Completed surveys may be returned to the church office or placed in the wooden box by Sunday, May 31.

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 will be in the Narthex starting June 15. 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.

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.

Cantors Needed! We are looking for cantors to help lead during services. Cantors will lead from the lectern and help guide the congregation in song. This opportunity is open to anyone who feels called by the Spirit to serve — you do not need to be a member of the choir! Many of our pastors are not comfortable singing, and this is a wonderful way you can help support worship. If you are interested, please call the church office to sign up for a Sunday that works best for your schedule. We need YOU!

Upcoming Service Reminders Details will be shared closer to services

May 24 Memorial Day weekend. Summer service schedule begins-8:30am/10:00am. Men's choir singing.

May 31 8:30 service, we will be awarding camperships to those who contacted the church office. Camperships are made possible through the St. John's Trust Fund, Bev Haas, and St. John's WELCA.

June 21 8:30 worship will be held on the Church lawn. Please bring a lawn chair and get comfortable as we gather outside to hear God's Word. Start Father's Day out right by attending church with your family! 10am service will be held inside.

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

Volunteers for May 24, 2026: Second Service time changes to 10 AM

Ushers/Acolytes: 8:30am Ron Dahlstrom, David & Wendy Sanderson; 10:00am

Greeters: 8:30am Virgil & Deb Thorstenson; 10:30am
Readers: 8:30am Sarah Sweeney; 10:00am Jill Kistler