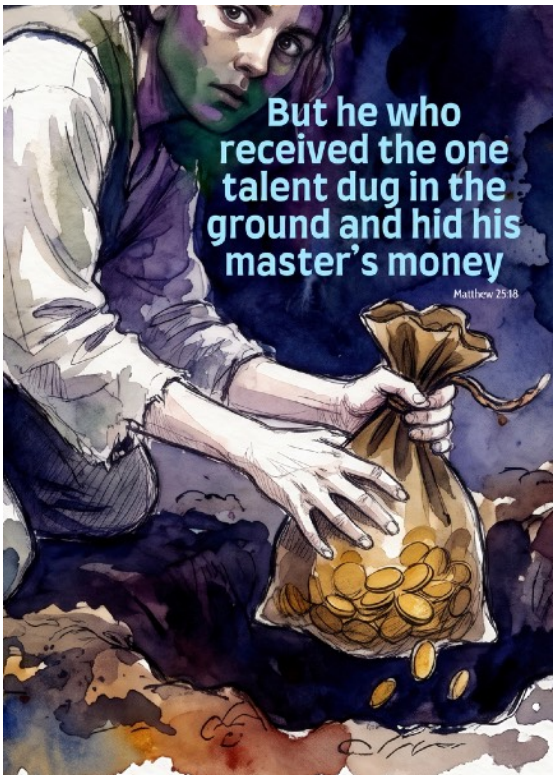
Twenty-fifth Sunday after Pentecost



November 15, 2026

St. John's Lutheran Churches

stjohnslutheranjc.com

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4409 Saint Johns Road
Jefferson City, MO 65101

Babbtown
7075 Highway P
Westphalia, MO 65085

Pastor: Rev. Ryan Groh
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Prayer Upon Entering Church: O Lord, God the Father, my Maker, Lord Jesus, my Redeemer, Holy Spirit, my Comforter in life and death, I have entered Your house to hear what You will speak to me. Lord, renew now my heart through Your Holy Spirit, for the sake of Jesus Christ, that from Your Word I learn to grieve over my sins, trust in Jesus in life and in death, and daily to better myself in holy life and conduct. Hear and answer me through Jesus Christ. Amen.

About This Service: The heart of Christianity is not what we do for God but what God has done for us in Christ Jesus. We call our service the "Divine Service" because the Divine One, our Lord Jesus, promises to be present to serve us by His Word and with His body and blood.

Are My Children Welcome? Our Lord says, "Let the children come to me; do not hinder them, for to such belongs the kingdom of God" (Mark 10:14). Yes, your little ones are more than welcome! We are delighted to have them with us in the service!

Visitors: Welcome to St. John's! If you have not already done so, please fill out the visitor's book outside of the sanctuary. If you don't yet have a church home, or have any questions about what we believe, teach, and confess, feel free to speak with Pastor; he would be happy to talk with you!

Communion Statement: All visitors are asked to speak with Pastor before the service and prior to coming up for communion. We invite those who are active communicant members of the LC-MS to commune with us. If you are not a communicant member of the LC-MS but wish to come receive a blessing, please cross your arms when you come up to the communion rail to receive a blessing.

Ringing of the Bell

Prelude

Welcome

Opening Hymn TLH 610 "And Will the Judge Descend"

And will the Judge descend, And must the dead arise
And not a single soul escape His all-discerning eyes?

And from His righteous lips Shall this dread sentence sound
And thro' the num'rous guilty throng Spread black despair around:

"Depart from Me, accursed, To everlasting flame,
For rebel angels first prepared, Where mercy never came"?

How will my heart endure The terrors of that Day
When earth and heav'n before His face Astonished shrink away?

But ere that trumpet shakes The mansions of the dead,
Hark from the Gospel's cheering sound What joyful tidings spread:

Ye sinners, seek His grace Whose wrath ye cannot bear;
Fly to the shelter of His cross And find salvation there. Amen.

The Order of Worship, Page 15 *TLH*

Invocation: *TLH Page 15 [Responses Sung]*
P: In the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Ghost.
C: **Amen.**
P: Beloved in the Lord! Let us draw near with a true heart and confess our sins unto God, our Father, beseeching Him in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ to grant us forgiveness.
Our help is in the name of the Lord.
C: **Who made heaven and earth.**
P: I said, I will confess my transgressions unto the Lord.
C: **And Thou forgavest the iniquity of my sin.**

Confession of Sins *TLH Page 16*
ALL: **O almighty God, merciful Father, I, a poor, miserable sinner, confess unto Thee all my sins and iniquities with which I have ever offended Thee and justly deserved Thy temporal and eternal punishment. But I am heartily sorry for them and sincerely repent of them, and I pray Thee of Thy boundless mercy and for the sake of the holy, innocent, bitter sufferings and death of Thy beloved Son, Jesus Christ, to be gracious and merciful to me, a poor, sinful being.**

Absolution *TLH Page 16*
P: Upon this your confession, I, by virtue of my office, as a called and ordained servant of the Word, announce the grace of God unto all of you, and in the stead and by the command of my Lord Jesus Christ I forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Ghost.
C: *[Sung]* **Amen.**

Introit (P: Pastor **C: Congregation**) *Psalm 143:2, 5–6, 10–11; antiphon: v. 1*

P: Hear my prayer, O Lord; give ear to my pleas for mercy!
In your faithfulness answer me, in your righteousness!
C: Enter not into judgment with your servant,
for no one living is righteous before you.
P: I remember the days of old; I meditate on all that you have done;
I ponder the work of your hands.
C: I stretch out my hands to you;
my soul thirsts for you like a parched land.
P: Teach me to do your will, for you are my God!
Let your good Spirit lead me on level ground!
C: For your name's sake, O Lord, preserve my life!
In your righteousness bring my soul out of trouble!

Gloria Patri: *TLH Page 16 [Sung]*

C: **Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Ghost;**
As it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be, world without end. Amen.

The Kyrie: *TLH Page 17 [Sung]*

C: **Lord, have mercy upon us. Christ, have mercy upon us. Lord, have mercy upon us.**

The Gloria in Excelsis: *TLH Pages 17-19 [Sung]*

C: **Glory be to God on high; And on earth peace, good will toward men.**
We praise Thee, we bless Thee, we worship Thee,
We glorify Thee, we give thanks to Thee, for Thy great glory.
O Lord God, heav'nly King, God the Father Almighty.
O Lord, the only-begotten Son, Jesus Christ; O Lord God, Lamb of God, Son of the Father,
That takest away the sin of the world, have mercy upon us.
Thou that takest away the sin of the world, receive our prayer.
Thou that sittest at the right hand of God the Father, have mercy upon us.
For Thou only art holy; Thou only art the Lord.
Thou only, O Christ, with the Holy Ghost, art most high in the glory of God the Father. Amen.

Salutation and Collect *TLH Page 19*

P: The Lord be with you! **C: And with thy spirit!**
(prayed together) **– Almighty and ever-living God, You have given exceedingly great and precious promises to those who trust in You. Dispel from us the works of darkness and grant us to live in the light of Your Son, Jesus Christ, that our faith may never be found wanting; through the same Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.**

Response: ***[Sung]*** **Amen.**

Old Testament Reading – Zephaniah 1:7-16

7 Be silent before the Lord God!
For the day of the Lord is near;
the Lord has prepared a sacrifice
and consecrated his guests.
8 And on the day of the Lord's sacrifice—
"I will punish the officials and the king's sons
and all who array themselves in foreign attire.
9 On that day I will punish
everyone who leaps over the threshold,
and those who fill their master's house
with violence and fraud.
10 "On that day," declares the Lord,
"a cry will be heard from the Fish Gate,
a wail from the Second Quarter,
a loud crash from the hills.
11 Wail, O inhabitants of the Mortar!
For all the traders are no more;
all who weigh out silver are cut off.
12 At that time I will search Jerusalem with lamps,
and I will punish the men
who are complacent,
those who say in their hearts,
'The Lord will not do good,
nor will he do ill.'
13 Their goods shall be plundered,
and their houses laid waste.
Though they build houses,
they shall not inhabit them;
though they plant vineyards,
they shall not drink wine from them."
14 The great day of the Lord is near,
near and hastening fast;
the sound of the day of the Lord is bitter;
the mighty man cries aloud there.
15 A day of wrath is that day,
a day of distress and anguish,
a day of ruin and devastation,
a day of darkness and gloom,
a day of clouds and thick darkness,
16 a day of trumpet blast and battle cry
against the fortified cities
and against the lofty battlements.

Epistle Reading – 1 Thessalonians 5:1-11

1 Now concerning the times and the seasons, brothers, you have no need to have anything written to you. 2 For you yourselves are fully aware that the day of the Lord will come like a thief in the night. 3 While people are saying, "There is peace and security," then sudden destruction will come upon them as labor pains come upon a pregnant woman, and they will not escape. 4 But you are not in darkness, brothers, for that day to surprise you like a thief. 5 For you are all children of light, children of the day. We are not of the night or of the darkness. 6 So then let us not sleep, as others do, but let us keep awake and be sober. 7 For those who sleep, sleep at night, and those who get drunk, are drunk at night. 8 But since we belong to the day, let us be sober, having put on the breastplate of faith and love, and for a helmet the hope of salvation. 9 For God has not destined us for wrath, but to obtain salvation through our Lord Jesus Christ, 10 who died for us so that whether we are awake or asleep we might live with him. 11 Therefore encourage one another and build one another up, just as you are doing.

Gradual *(Pastor speaks, congregation responds with "Hallelujahs!")*

P: These are the ones coming out of the great tribulation.

They have washed their robes and made them white in the blood of the Lamb.

Blessèd are those whose strength is in you,

in whose heart are the highways to Zion.

C: Hallelujah! Hallelujah! Hallelujah!

As the Gospel reading is announced, the congregation sings… **C: GLORY BE TO THEE, O LORD!**

Gospel Reading – Matthew 25:14-30

14[Jesus said:] "For it will be like a man going on a journey, who called his servants and entrusted to them his
property. 15To one he gave five talents, to another two, to another one, to each according to his ability. Then he
went away. 16He who had received the five talents went at once and traded with them, and he made five talents
more. 17So also he who had the two talents made two talents more. 18But he who had received the one talent
went and dug in the ground and hid his master's money. 19Now after a long time the master of those servants
came and settled accounts with them. 20And he who had received the five talents came forward, bringing five
talents more, saying, 'Master, you delivered to me five talents; here I have made five talents more.' 21His master
said to him, 'Well done, good and faithful servant. You have been faithful over a little; I will set you over much.
Enter into the joy of your master.' 22And he also who had the two talents came forward, saying, 'Master, you
delivered to me two talents; here I have made two talents more.' 23His master said to him, 'Well done, good and
faithful servant. You have been faithful over a little; I will set you over much. Enter into the joy of your master.'
24He also who had received the one talent came forward, saying, 'Master, I knew you to be a hard man, reaping
where you did not sow, and gathering where you scattered no seed, 25so I was afraid, and I went and hid your
talent in the ground. Here you have what is yours.' 26But his master answered him, 'You wicked and slothful
servant! You knew that I reap where I have not sowed and gather where I scattered no seed? 27Then you ought
to have invested my money with the bankers, and at my coming I should have received what was my own with
interest. 28So take the talent from him and give it to him who has the ten talents. 29For to everyone who has will
more be given, and he will have an abundance. But from the one who has not, even what he has will be taken
away. 30And cast the worthless servant into the outer darkness. In that place there will be weeping and gnashing
of teeth.'"

The Gospel ended, the congregation sings…` **C: PRAISE BE TO THEE, O CHRIST!**

The Nicene Creed *TLH Page 22*

I believe in one God, the Father Almighty, Maker of heaven and earth and of all things visible and invisible.

And in one Lord Jesus Christ, the only-begotten Son of God, begotten of His Father before all worlds, God of God, Light of Light, Very God of Very God, Begotten, not made, Being of one substance with the Father, By whom all things were made; Who for us men and for our salvation came down from heaven And was incarnate by the Holy Ghost of the Virgin Mary And was made man; And was crucified also for us under Pontius Pilate. He suffered and was buried; And the third day He rose again according to the Scriptures; And ascended into heaven, And sitteth on the right hand of the Father; And He shall come again with glory to judge both the quick and the dead; Whose kingdom shall have no end.

And I believe in the Holy Ghost, The Lord and Giver of Life, Who proceedeth from the Father and the Son, Who with the Father and the Son together is worshiped and glorified, Who spake by the Prophets. And I believe one holy Christian and Apostolic Church. I acknowledge one Baptism for the remission of sins, And I look for the resurrection of the dead, And the life of the world to come. Amen.

Sermon Hymn TLH 611 "The Day is Surely Drawing Near"

The day is surely drawing near When God's Son, the Anointed,
Shall with great majesty appear As Judge of all appointed.
All mirth and laughter then shall cease When flames on flames will still increase,
As Scripture truly teacheth.

A trumpet loud shall then resound And all the earth be shaken.
Then all who in their graves are found Shall from their sleep awaken;
But all that live shall in that hour By the Almighty's boundless pow'r
Be changed at His commanding.

A book is opened then to all, A record truly telling
What each hath done, both great and small, When he on earth was dwelling;
And ev'ry heart be clearly seen, And all be known as they have been
In thoughts and words and actions.

Then woe to those who scorned the Lord And sought but carnal pleasures,
Who here despised His precious Word And loved their earthly treasures!
With shame and trembling they will stand And at the Judge's stern command
To Satan be delivered.

O Jesus, who my debt didst pay And for my sin wast smitten,
Within the Book of Life, oh, may My name be also written!
I will not doubt; I trust in Thee, From Satan Thou hast made me free
And from all condemnation.

Therefore my Intercessor be And for Thy blood and merit
Declare my name from judgment free With all who life inherit,
That I may see Thee face to face With all Thy saints in that blest place
Which Thou for us hast purchased.

O Jesus Christ, do not delay, But hasten our salvation;
We often tremble on our way In fear and tribulation.
Then hear us when we cry to Thee; Come, mighty Judge, and make us free
From every evil! Amen.

The Sermon

Offertory *TLH Pages 22-23 [Sung]*

C: **Create in me a clean heart, O God, and renew a right spirit within me.**
Cast me not away from Thy presence, and take not Thy Holy Spirit from me.
Restore unto me the joy of Thy salvation; And uphold me with Thy free spirit. Amen.

Prayers *TLH Pages 23-24*

ORDER OF HOLY COMMUNION

The Preface: *TLH Page 24 [Responses Sung]*

P: The Lord be with you. C: **And with thy spirit.**
P: Lift up your hearts. C: **We lift them up unto the Lord.**
P: Let us give thanks unto the Lord, our God. C: **It is meet and right so to do.**

P: It is truly meet, right, and salutary that we should at all times and in all places give thanks to Thee, holy Lord, almighty Father, everlasting God … therefore with angels and archangels and with all the company of heaven we laud and magnify Thy glorious name, evermore praising Thee and saying:

The Sanctus: *TLH Page 26 [Sung]*

Holy, holy, holy, Lord God of Sabaoth; Heav'n and earth are full of Thy glory;
Hosanna, Hosanna, Hosanna in the highest. Blessed is He, Blessed is He,
Blessed is He that cometh in the Name of the Lord. Hosanna, Hosanna, Hosanna in the highest.

The Lord's Prayer: *TLH Page 27*

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;
[Sung] **For Thine is the kingdom and the power and the glory forever and ever. Amen.**

The Words of Institution: *TLH Page 27*

Our Lord Jesus Christ, the same night in which He was betrayed, took bread; and when He had given thanks, He brake it and gave it to His disciples, saying, "Take eat; this is My body, which is given for you. This do in remembrance of me."

After the same manner also He took the cup when He had supped, and when He had given thanks, He gave it to them, saying, "Drink ye all of it; this cup is the New Testament in My blood, which is shed for you for the remission of sins. This do, as oft as ye drink it, in remembrance of Me."

The Pax Domini: *TLH Page 27*

P: The peace of the Lord be with you always. C: *[Sung]* **A - - - - men.**

The Agnus Dei: *TLH Page 28 [Sung]*

O Christ, Thou Lamb of God, that takest away the sin of the world, have mercy upon us.
O Christ, Thou Lamb of God, that takest away the sin of the world, have mercy upon us.
O Christ, Thou Lamb of God, that takest away the sin of the world, Grant us Thy peace. A - - - - men.

The Distribution *(We invite those who are communicant members of the LC–MS to commune with us.)*

Distribution Hymns TLH 369 "All Mankind Fell in Adam's Fall"

All mankind fell in Adam's fall, One common sin infects them all;
From sire to son the bane descends, And over all the curse impends.

Through all man's powers corruption creeps And him in dreadful bondage keeps;
In guilt he draws his infant breath And reaps its fruits of woe and death.

From hearts depraved, to evil prone, Flow thoughts and deeds of sin alone;
God's image lost, the darkened soul Nor seeks nor finds its heavenly goal.

But Christ, the second Adam, came To bear our sin and woe and shame,
To be our Life, our Light, our Way, Our only Hope, our only Stay.

As by one man all mankind fell And, born in sin, was doomed to hell,
So by one Man, who took our place, We all received the gift of grace.

We thank Thee, Christ; new life is ours, New light, new hope, new strength, new powers:
May grace our every way attend Until we reach our journey's end! Amen.

TLH 34 "My Soul, Now Bless Thy Maker"

My soul, now bless thy Maker! Let all within me bless His name
Who maketh thee partaker Of mercies more than thou dar'st claim.
Forget Him not whose meekness Still bears with all thy sin,
Who healeth all thy weakness, Renews thy life within;
Whose grace and care are endless And saved thee through the past;
Who leaves no sufferer friendless, But rights the wronged at last.

He shows to man His treasure Of judgment, truth, and righteousness,
His love beyond all measure, His yearning pity o'er distress,
Nor treats us as we merit, But lays His anger by,
The humble, contrite spirit Finds His compassion nigh;
And high as heaven above us, As break from close of day,
So far, since He doth love us, He puts our sins away.

For as a tender father Hath pity on his children here,
He in His arms will gather All who are His in childlike fear.
He knows how frail our powers Who but from dust are made;
We flourish like the flowers, And even so we fade;
The wind but o'er them passes, And all their bloom is o'er,-
We wither like the grasses, Our place knows us no more.

God's grace alone endureth, And children's children yet shall prove
How He with strength assureth The hearts of all that seek His love.
In heaven is fixed His dwelling, His rule is over all;
Angels, in might excelling, Bright hosts, before Him fall.
Praise Him, who ever reigneth, All ye who hear His Word,
Nor our poor hymns disdaineth- My soul, oh, bless the Lord! Amen.

Nunc Dimittis *TLH Pages 29-30 [Sung]*

Lord, now lettest Thou Thy servant depart in peace according to Thy Word,
For mine eyes have seen Thy Salvation: which Thou hast prepared before the Face of all people,
a Light to lighten the Gentiles and the Glory of Thy people Israel.
Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Ghost;
As it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be, world without end. Amen.

The Thanksgiving: *TLH Page 30*

P: Oh, give thanks unto the Lord, for He is good. C: *[Sung]* **And His mercy endureth forever.**

The Thanksgiving Prayer: *TLH Pages 30-31*

P: …through Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, ever one God, world without end.

C: *[Sung]* **A- - - - - men.**

The Benedicamus: *TLH Page 31*

P: The Lord be with you. C: *[Sung]* **And with thy spirit.**

P: Bless we the Lord. C: *[Sung]* **Thanks be to God.**

The Benediction: *TLH Page 31*

P: The Lord bless you and keep you, The Lord make His face to shine upon you and be gracious unto you. The Lord lift up His countenance upon you and give you peace.

C: *[Sung]* **Amen, Amen, Amen!**

Closing Hymn TLH 441 "We Give Thee But Thine Own"

We give Thee but Thine own, Whate'er the gift may be;
All that we have is Thine alone, A trust, O Lord, from Thee.

May we Thy bounties thus As stewards true receive
And gladly, as Thou blessest us, To Thee our first-fruits give!

Oh, hearts are bruised and dead, And homes are bare and cold,
And lambs for whom the Shepherd bled Are straying from the fold.

To comfort and to bless, To find a balm for woe,
To tend the lone and fatherless, Is angels' work below.

The captive to release, To God the lost to bring,
To teach the way of life and peace, It is a Christlike thing.

And we believe Thy Word, Though dim our faith may be:
Whate'er for Thine we do, O Lord, We do it unto Thee. Amen.

Silent Prayer - Announcements

Have A Blessed Week!

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Cover pic artwork: Allan Forbis

The Lutheran Hymnal: St. Louis: Concordia Publishing House, © 1941.

Hymn # 610: Scripture: Matthew 25:41; And Will the Judge Descend; Author: Philip Doddridge (1755, ab.); Tune: Southwell; Source: "Psalter"; Composer: William Daman (1579).

Hymn # 611: Scripture: Luke 21:25-36; Es ist gewisslich an der Zeit; The Day is Surely Drawing Near; Author: Bartholomäus Ringwaldt (1586, ad.); Translator: Philip A. Peter (1880, alt.); Tune: Es ist gewisslich; Source: "Geistliche Lieder", Wittenberg, 1535.

Hymn #369: Scripture: Romans 3:12; Durch Adams Fall ist ganz verderbt; All Mankind Fell in Adam's Fall; Author: Lazarus Spengler (1524, cento); Translator: Matthias Loy (1880, alt.); Tune: Wenn wir in höchsten Nöten; Source: "Genevan Psalter", 1547.

Hymn # 34: Scripture: Psalm 103; Nun lob, mein' Seel', den Herre; My Soul, Now Bless Thy Maker; Author: Johann Gramann (1525); Translator: Catherine Winkworth (1863, alt.); Tune: Nun lob, mein' Seel', Source: "Concentus Novi", Augsburg, 1540.

Hymn #441: Scripture: 1 John 3:17; We Give Thee But Thine Own; Author; William W. How (1854); Tune: Energy; Composer: William H. Monk (1861).

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Daily Bible Reading:

- **Monday, November 16th**: 2 Samuel 9
- **Tuesday, November 17th:** 2 Samuel 10
- **Wednesday, November 18th:** 2 Samuel 11
- **Thursday, November 19th:** 2 Samuel 12
- **Friday, November 20th:** 2 Samuel 13
- **Saturday, November 21st:** 2 Samuel 14
- **Sunday, November 22nd:** 2 Samuel 15

* *

Prayer for Departing Church: O Lord, I give thanks to You with all my heart. You have taught me Your will that I might perform it. Help me now, my God, by Your Holy Spirit, for Jesus Christ's sake, that I may treasure Your Word in a heart unblemished, and fortified in faith, lead a sanctified life after the manner of our forefathers, and therein find solace in life and in death. Amen.

Catechism Recitation for the Week:

Christian Questions with Their Answers

12. What are the words of institution?

Our Lord Jesus Christ, on the night when He was betrayed, took bread, and when He had given thanks, He broke it and gave it to the disciples and said: "Take eat; this is My body, which is given for you. This do in remembrance of Me."

In the same way also He took the cup after supper, and when He had given thanks, He gave it to them, saying: "Drink of it, all of you; this cup is the new testament in My blood, which is shed for you for the forgiveness of sins. This do, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of Me."