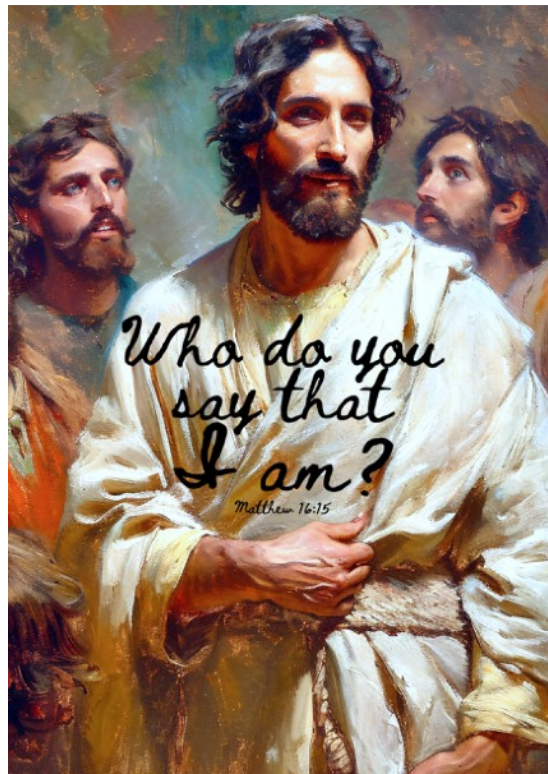


Thirteenth Sunday after Pentecost



August 23, 2026
St. John's Lutheran Churches
stjohnslutheranjc.com

Schubert

4409 Saint Johns Road
Jefferson City, MO 65101

Babbtown

7075 Highway P
Westphalia, MO 65085

Pastor: Rev. Ryan Groh - groh.stjohns@gmail.com

Guest Pastor This Sunday: Rev. Tony Alter

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.

Ring of the Bell

Prelude

Welcome

Opening Hymn TLH 465 "Christ is Our Cornerstone"

**Christ is our Corner-stone, On Him alone we build;
With His true saints alone The courts of heav'n are filled.
On His great love Our hopes we place Of present grace And joys above.**

**Oh, then, with hymns of praise These hallowed courts shall ring;
Our voices we will raise The three in One to Sing
And thus proclaim In joyful song, Both loud and long, That glorious name.**

**Here, gracious God, do Thou Forevermore draw nigh:
Accept each faithful vow And mark each suppliant sigh.
In copious show'r On all who pray Each holy day, Thy blessing pour.**

**Here may we gain from heav'n The grace which we implore,
And may that grace, once giv'n, Be with us evermore
Until that day When all the blest To endless rest Are called away! 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 2:6–7; 117; antiphon: Psalm 115:18*

P: But we will bless the Lord

from this time forth and forevermore. Praise the Lord!

**C: As for me, I have set my King
on Zion, my holy hill.**

P: I will tell of the decree:

The Lord said to me, “You are my Son; today I have begotten you.”

**C: Praise the Lord, all nations!
Extol him, all peoples!**

P: For great is his steadfast love toward us,
and the faithfulness of the Lord endures forever. Praise the Lord!

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 God, whom to know is everlasting life, grant us to know Your Son, Jesus, to be the way, the truth, and the life that we may boldly confess Him to be the Christ and steadfastly walk in the way that leads to life eternal; 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 – Isaiah 51:1-6

¹“Listen to me, you who pursue righteousness,
you who seek the Lord:
look to the rock from which you were hewn,
and to the quarry from which you were dug.
²Look to Abraham your father
and to Sarah who bore you;
for he was but one when I called him,
that I might bless him and multiply him.
³For the Lord comforts Zion;
he comforts all her waste places
and makes her wilderness like Eden,
her desert like the garden of the Lord;
joy and gladness will be found in her,
thanksgiving and the voice of song.
⁴“Give attention to me, my people,
and give ear to me, my nation;
for a law will go out from me,
and I will set my justice for a light to the peoples.
⁵My righteousness draws near,
my salvation has gone out,
and my arms will judge the peoples;
the coastlands hope for me,
and for my arm they wait.
⁶Lift up your eyes to the heavens,
and look at the earth beneath;
for the heavens vanish like smoke,
the earth will wear out like a garment,
and they who dwell in it will die in like manner;
but my salvation will be forever,
and my righteousness will never be dismayed.”

Epistle Reading – Romans 11:33-12:8

³³Oh, the depth of the riches and wisdom and knowledge of God! How unsearchable are his judgments and how inscrutable his ways!

³⁴“For who has known the mind of the Lord,
or who has been his counselor?”

³⁵“Or who has given a gift to him
that he might be repaid?”

³⁶For from him and through him and to him are all things. To him be glory forever. Amen.

¹I appeal to you therefore, brothers, by the mercies of God, to present your bodies as a living sacrifice, holy and acceptable to God, which is your spiritual worship. ²Do not be conformed to this world, but be transformed by the renewal of your mind, that by testing you may discern what is the will of God, what is good and acceptable and perfect.

³For by the grace given to me I say to everyone among you not to think of himself more highly than he ought to think, but to think with sober judgment, each according to the measure of faith that God has assigned. ⁴For as in one body we have many members, and the members do not all have the same function, ⁵so we, though many, are one body in Christ, and individually members one of another. ⁶Having gifts that differ according to the grace given to us, let us use them: if prophecy, in proportion to our faith; ⁷if service, in our serving; the one who teaches, in his teaching; ⁸the one who exhorts, in his exhortation; the one who contributes, in generosity; the one who leads, with zeal; the one who does acts of mercy, with cheerfulness.

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

P: Fear the Lord, you his saints,
for those who fear him lack nothing!
Many are the afflictions of the righteous,
but the Lord delivers him out of them all.

C: Hallelujah! Hallelujah! Hallelujah!

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

Gospel Reading – Matthew 16:13-20

¹³Now when Jesus came into the district of Caesarea Philippi, he asked his disciples, "Who do people say that the Son of Man is?" ¹⁴And they said, "Some say John the Baptist, others say Elijah, and others Jeremiah or one of the prophets." ¹⁵He said to them, "But who do you say that I am?" ¹⁶Simon Peter replied, "You are the Christ, the Son of the living God." ¹⁷And Jesus answered him, "Blessed are you, Simon Bar-Jonah! For flesh and blood has not revealed this to you, but my Father who is in heaven. ¹⁸And I tell you, you are Peter, and on this rock I will build my church, and the gates of hell shall not prevail against it. ¹⁹I will give you the keys of the kingdom of heaven, and whatever you bind on earth shall be bound in heaven, and whatever you loose on earth shall be loosed in heaven." ²⁰Then he strictly charged the disciples to tell no one that he was the Christ.

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 467* "Built on the Rock the Church Doth Stand"

**Built on the Rock the Church doth stand, Even when steeples are falling;
Crumbled have spires in ev'ry land, Bells still are chiming and calling,
Calling the young and old to rest, But above all the soul distrest,
Longing for rest everlasting.**

**Surely in temples made with hands, God, the Most High, is not dwelling;
High above earth His temple stands, All earthly temples excelling.
Yet He whom heav'ns cannot contain Chose to abide on earth with men,
Built in our bodies His temple.**

**We are God's house of living stones, Buildded for His habitation;
He through baptismal grace us owns Heirs of His wondrous salvation.
Were we but two His name to tell, Yet He would deign with us to dwell,
With all His grace and His favor.**

Now we may gather with our King E'en in the lowliest dwelling;
Praises to Him we there may bring, His wondrous mercy forth telling.
Jesus His grace to us accords; Spirit and life are all His words;
His truth doth hallow the temple.

Still we our earthly temples rear That we may herald His praises;
They are the homes where He draws near And little children embraces.
Beautiful things in them are said; God there with us His covenant made,
Making us heirs of His kingdom.

Here stands the font before our eyes Telling how God did receive us;
Th' altar recalls Christ's sacrifice And what His table doth give us;
Here sounds the Word that doth proclaim Christ yesterday, today, the same,
Yea, and for aye our Redeemer.

Grant, then, O God, where'er men roam, That, when the church bells are ringing,
Many in saving faith may come Where Christ His message is bringing:
"I know Mine own, Mine own know Me; Ye, not the world, My face shall see.
My peace I leave with you." 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 307 "Draw Nigh and Take the Body of the Lord"

**Draw nigh and take the body of the Lord And drink the holy blood for you out-poured.
Offered was He for greatest and for least, Himself the Victim and Himself the Priest.**

**He that His saints in this world rules and shields To all believers life eternal yields,
With heav'nly bread makes them that hunger whole, Gives living waters to the thirsty soul.**

**Approach ye, then, with faithful hearts sincere And take the pledges of salvation here.
O Judge of all, our only Savior Thou, In this Thy feast of love be with us now. Amen.**

TLH 305 "Soul, Adorn Thyself with Gladness"

**Soul, adorn thyself with gladness, Leave behind all gloom and sadness;
Come into the day-light's splendor, There with joy thy praises render
Unto Him whose grace unbounded Hath this wondrous Supper founded.
High o'er all the heav'ns He reigneth, Yet to dwell with thee He deigneth.**

**Hasten as a bride to meet Him And with loving rev'ence greet Him,
For with words of life immortal Now He knocketh at thy portal.
Haste to ope the gates before Him, Saying, while thou dost adore Him:
Suffer, Lord, that I receive Thee, And I nevermore will leave Thee.**

**He who craves a precious treasure Neither cost nor pain will measure;
But the priceless gifts of heaven God to us hath freely given.
Tho' the wealth of earth were proffered, Naught would buy the gifts here offered:
Christ's true body, for thee riven, And His blood, for thee once given.**

Ah, how hungers all my spirit For the love I do not merit!
Oft have I, with sighs fast thronging, Thought upon this food with longing,
In the battle well-nigh worsted, For this cup of life have thirsted,
For the Friend who here invites us And to God Himself unites us.

In my heart I find ascending Holy awe, with rapture blending,
As this mystery I ponder, Filling all my soul with wonder,
Bearing witness at this hour Of the greatness of God's power;
Far beyond all human telling Is the pow'r within Him dwelling.

Human reason, though it ponder, Cannot fathom this great wonder
That Christ's body e'er remaineth Though it countless souls sustaineth
And that He His blood is giving With the wine we are receiving.
These great mysteries unsounded Are by God alone expounded.

Jesus, Sun of Life, my Splendor, Jesus, Thou my Friend most tender,
Jesus, Joy of my desiring, Fount of life, my soul inspiring--
At Thy feet I cry, my Maker, Let me be a fit partaker
Of this blessed food from heaven, For our good, Thy glory, given.

Lord, by love and mercy driven Thou hast left Thy throne in heaven
On the cross for me to languish And to die in bitter anguish,
To forego all joy and gladness And to shed Thy blood in sadness.
By this blood, redeemed and living, Lord, I praise Thee with thanksgiving.

Jesus, Bread of Life, I pray Thee, Let me gladly here obey Thee.
By Thy love I am invited, Be Thy love with love requited;
From this Supper let me measure, Lord, how vast and deep love's treasure.
Through the gifts Thou here dost give me As Thy guest in heav'n receive me. 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 473 "The Church's One Foundation"

**The Church's one foundation Is Jesus Christ, her Lord;
She is His new creation By water and the Word;
From heav'n He came and sought her To be His holy Bride;
With His own Blood He bought her, And for her life He died.**

**Elect from ev'ry nation, Yet one o'er all the earth,
Her charter of salvation One Lord, one faith, one birth.
One holy name she blesses, Partakes one holy food,
And to one hope she presses, With ev'ry grace endued.**

**The Church shall never perish! Her dear Lord, to defend,
To guide, sustain, and cherish, Is with her to the end.
Tho' there be those that hate her, False sons within her pale,
Against both foe and traitor She ever shall prevail.**

**Though with a scornful wonder Men see her sore oppressed,
By schisms rent asunder, By heresies distressed;
Yet saints their watch are keeping; Their cry goes up, "How long?"
And soon the night of weeping Shall be the morn of song.**

**Mid toil and tribulation And tumult of her war
She waits the consummation Of peace forevermore,
Till with the vision glorious, Her longing eyes are blest
And the great Church victorious Shall be the Church at rest. Amen.**

Silent Prayer

Announcements

Have A Blessed Week!

* * * * *

"[1] Our churches teach that there is forgiveness of sins for those who have fallen after Baptism whenever they are converted. [2] The Church ought to impart Absolution to those who return to repentance [Jeremiah 3:12]. [3] Now, strictly speaking, repentance consists of two parts. [4] One part is contrition, that is, terrors striking the conscience through the knowledge of sin. [5] The other part is faith, which is born of the Gospel [Romans 10:17] or the Absolution and believes that for Christ's sake, sins are forgiven. It comforts the conscience and delivers it from terror. [6] Then good works are bound to follow, which are the fruit of repentance [Galatians 5:22–23]."

- Augsburg Confession XII 1-6

Cover pic artwork: Allan Forbis

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

Hymn #465: Scripture: 1 Kings 9:3; Angularis fundamentum; Christ Is Our Corner-stone; Author: Unknown (c. 700, cento); Tune: Darwall's 148th; Composer: John Darwall (1770).

Hymn #467: Text: Ephesians 2:10-22; Kirken den er et gammelt Hus; Author: Nicolai F. S. Grundtvig, 1837; Tr.: Carl Doving, 1909, alt.; Tune: Kirken den er et; Composer: Ludvig M. Lindeman, 1871.

Hymn #307: Scripture: Psalm 34:8; Sancti, venite, corpus Christi sumite; Latin Author Unknown, (circa 680), Translator: John M. Neale (1851, cento, alt.); Tune: Old 124th; Source: "Genevan Psalter," 1551.

Hymn #305: Scripture: Revelation 19:8; Schmucke dich, Olieb Seele; Soul, Adorn Thyself With Gladness; Translator: Catherine Winkworth (1858, alt.); Tune: Schmuck dich; Composer: Johann Cruger, (1649).

Hymn #473: Scripture: Ephesians 2:20; The Church's One Foundation; Author: Samuel J. Stone, 1866, Cento; Tune: Aurelia; Composer: Samuel S. Wesley, 1864.

Bible Readings: The Holy Bible, English Standard Version. ESV® Text Edition: 2016. Copyright © 2001 by Crossway Bibles, a publishing ministry of Good News Publishers.

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Daily Bible Reading:

- **Monday, August 24th**: Daniel 1
- **Tuesday, August 25th**: Daniel 2
- **Wednesday, August 26th**: Daniel 3
- **Thursday, August 27th**: Daniel 4
- **Friday, August 28th**: Daniel 5
- **Saturday, August 29th**: Daniel 6
- **Sunday, August 30th**: Daniel 7

Catechism Recitation for the Week:

Table of Duties: To Children

Children, obey your parents in the Lord, for this is right. "Honor your father and your mother"—which is the first commandment with a promise—"that it may go well with you and that you may enjoy long life on the earth." Eph. 6:1–3

* * * * *

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.