

St. John's
Lutheran Church
Norfolk, Nebraska



9th Sunday after Pentecost

July 26, 2026

Pr. Gretchen Enoch

St. John's Lutheran Church ELCA

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9th Sunday After Pentecost

1 Kings 3:5-12, Romans 8:26-39, Matthew 13:31-33, 44-52

Hymns for Saturday 5:00 PM & Sunday 8:30 AM (Saturday Verses 1, 2)

#532 Gather Us In, Verses 1, 2, 4

#513 Listen, God is Calling, Verses 1, 2, 3

#515 Break Now the Bread of Life, Verses 1, 2, 3

#867 In Thee is Gladness

Hymns for Sunday 11:00 AM

#532 Gather Us In, Verses 1-2

#532 Gather Us In, Verses 3-4

Give Me Wisdom

That's Why We Praise Him

The Lord's Prayer

Who Am I

TODAY'S WORSHIP THEME

As Solomon prays for wisdom, we seek to more deeply know the treasures of faith. In today's gospel Jesus offers everyday images that reveal to us the reign of God: a tree that becomes a sheltering home, yeast that penetrates and expands, a treasured pearl, a net that gains a great catch. Even as we seek the riches of God's reign, the great surprise is that God's grace finds us first!

PRAYER CONCERNS:

Del Fuelberth	Judy Denkinger	Carol Timperley	Bill Schroeder
Phil Sykes	Janet Farr	Karmon Lienemann	Keagan Sullivan
Dan Timperley	Bob Frady	Jerry Berney	Zella Dederman
Jan Matthies	Ann Schroeder	Richard Juracek	Zander Barr
Kevin Rasmussen	Beth Garvin	Sue Gubbrud	Rhonda Thompson
Bob Roth	Margie Frank	Brenda Borchers	Family of Nancy Schwertley
			Family of Lyle Krueger

Altar Flowers for this weekend sponsored by:

**Dave & Penny Pedersen – in honor of our Wedding Anniversary
and**

Del & Kristi Johnson – Happy Birthday to Del and Kylie Johnson.

****If you would like the flowers you sponsored, please pick them up Sunday following late service, on Monday or call the office to make arrangements. Otherwise, we will have them delivered to home-bound or facility members. Thank you!**

THE WEEK AHEAD

MONDAY, July 27

7:00pm.....Solid Rock

WEDNESDAY, July 29

11:30am.....Fireside Chat

THURSDAY, July 30

7:00am.....Text Study

10:00am.....Text Study

1:30pm.....Bel Air Worship/Comm

SATURDAY, August 1

5:00pm.....Gathering Service

SUNDAY, August 2

8:30am.....Festival Worship*

9:30am.....Coffee Hour

10:15am.....Celebration Service

*This service will be live streamed.

SUNDAY SCHOOL

Join us on Sunday, August 30th as we RACE
back into a new year for Sunday School!
More details to follow!

WE ASK FOR YOUR HELP AND UNDERSTANDING

As you are all aware St John's congregation find ourselves in a time of transition. We have called a new Pastor, and Cindy is training a new Office Administrator, in anticipation of her fast-approaching retirement. With this transition, we anticipate that some changes will be made. We ask for your prayers, patience, and understanding as God leads us through the coming months. Our committee feels that this is a great opportunity for each member to re-dedicate ourselves to giving our time and talents through worship attendance, stewardship, and volunteer work. Please continue to pray for God's grace upon St. John's.

St. John's Personnel Committee

Change for Change

The Change for Change for the month of July will be for School Supplies for the Lutheran World Relief School Kits. The school kits will be assembled during God's Work our Hand's Sunday on September 13th. Supply lists are on the table in the west hallway.

Total this far is \$268.00.

Thank you so much everyone!

WORSHIP ASSISTANTS THIS WEEKEND

Saturday, July 25, 5:00pm

Council-Brenda Smith, Reader & Comm Asst-Brenda Carhart, Usher-Rick & Diana Uhler, Greeters-OPEN

Sunday, July 26, 8:30am

Council & Comm Asst-Jamie Bonilla, Reader & Comm Asst-Duane Timperley, Usher-Mark Nelson, Greeter-OPEN

Coffee Hosts: Denny & Lois Braesch

Sunday, July 26, 10:15am

Council & Comm Asst & Usher-Carol Schaffer, Reader-Penny Pedersen, Greeter-OPEN

WORSHIP ASSISTANTS NEXT WEEKEND

Saturday, August 1, 5:00pm

Council-OPEN, Reader-OPEN, Comm Asst-Brenda Carhart, Ushers-Anthony & Tony Utecht, Greeters-OPEN

Sunday, August 2, 8:30am

Council & Usher-Mark Nelson, Comm Asst-OPEN, Reader-Brenda Carhart, Greeter-OPEN

Coffee Hosts: Jana Kuhlman/Brenda Carhart

Sunday, August 2, 10:15am

Council-OPEN, Comm Asst-OPEN, Usher-OPEN, Reader-Lisa Echtenkamp, Greeter-OPEN

Weekly Offerings Received 7/19/26.....\$6,773
Attendance 7/19/26.....30, 52, 57 = 139
Year-To-Date (Actual).....\$(37,874.81)

Fireside Chats

We are still scheduling the opportunity for you to share your ideas of growth and strength of our church with other members. All meetings are scheduled to take place in the Bethany Room. You can sign up on the sheet in back of church or call the church office. There's still time!

Fireside Chat Schedule:

- 1) Wednesday July 22nd 4:00-5:30pm
- 2) Wednesday July 29th 11:30-1:00pm

The next Benefaction Meeting is Scheduled for Tuesday, August 12th. Please note any new applications will need to be submitted to the office by July 31st.

Thank you, Cindy! Mark your calendars for Sunday, August 2nd during coffee to celebrate Cindy's retirement. Never fear—Cindy and Duane will still be active in the life and ministry of St. John's.



Sunday, September 13th we will celebrating "Gods Work, Our Hands" with different activities. More information will be coming. In the meantime, if you wish to order a shirt, please see the sign-up board in back. You will be billed after they arrive. The costs are posted and billing will include a shipping cost. Please see the office if you have any questions.

St. John's is scheduled to volunteer for Meals on Wheels July 27th thru August 21st. We have 5 routes to fill. Each route has 4 to 5 meals to deliver. Arrive at the Joy Center at 11:00 AM to pick up your information and coolers. It is a wonderful service and the recipients are very grateful. Please call Carol Sorsen at 402-992-3237 or 402-371-7482 if you can help.



Thank You! Many thanks to the following people who worked in the kitchen and/or provided a cake for Nancy Schwertley's funeral luncheon: Kayla Mertz, Barb Pecka, Diana Uhler, Carolyn Vahle, Brenda Smith, Laurel Moore, Jean Schmeckpeper, Gerry Weiland, Carol Sorsen, Laura Harris, Lois Braesch, Mary Rover, Lon & Jeanne Timperley. **Your help was greatly appreciated.**

Vacation Bible School was a HUGE success. We want to thank all of the youth and adult volunteers including the kiddos. We especially want to express gratitude to our tech gurus John, Maddyx, Mason and Zander for coordinating the music. The theme of our week was, *The Creator's Creatures*. The three Bible Lessons included Jonah, Daniel and the Lion's Den and Noah's Ark. Tuesday night we had a high attendance of 29, K-8th graders. We began and closed each evening singing songs, praying in the sanctuary then, a nourishing meal was served for all. Included in the program were crafts; blow art paint, birdhouses, and prayer crosses and Noah's Ark ornament. Special thanks to our VBS program coordinators Stacy and Jamie. The best new ever is Stacy has agreed to coordinate VBS 2027, if Pastor Gretchen and Jaimie help recruit volunteers. Please consider helping next summer. God Bless! Pastor Gretchen

Office Update: Unfortunately, Mary Thompson was not the ideal candidate for the essential and challenging task of Office Administrator. The job post is available for candidates to apply. Please contact the church office for further information.

GOD'S WORK, OUR HANDS

Come Worship With Us, Eat With Us, Work With Us, and Play With Us!

It is coming September 13, 2026. Remember last year? It will be similar. All YOU have to do is come visit with guests, thank them, share the love, and eat together. Guests will be St. John's Members, First Responders in Norfolk, Wayne, Pierce, and Madison. The menu is Smokin Stans BBQ pork, beans, potato salad, pasta salad, relishes and pumpkin bars, and a variety of drinks. Come and see us. We have several short volunteer projects to do. We need your time and your hands. We're going to try to finish that day. Think of the responders. No one fights alone. Let's be generous and forgiving with our gifts and God's Love. Carol Waggoner