



Twenty-Second Sunday after Pentecost

November 9, 2025

WELCOME TO ST. JOHN'S LUTHERAN CHURCH!

Founded by German immigrants in 1745, St. John's Lutheran Church is one of the oldest congregations in the North Carolina Synod of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America. We are part of a rich heritage that now spans 184 congregations and 45,000 Lutherans in North Carolina, nearly 3 million ELCA members across 65 synods in the United States, and a global communion of 78 million Lutherans through the Lutheran World Federation. From a humble meetinghouse in 1745 to our place in the global body of Christ, St. John's continues to share God's love far beyond our own walls, living into the promise of the communion of saints.

SERVICE NOTES

- ❖ A printed cross ✝ is an invitation to make the sign of the cross on your forehead or body. We make the sign of the cross to remember our Baptism and the promise: *"You have been sealed by the Holy Spirit and marked with the cross of Christ forever."*
 - ❖ **Bold print** indicates a speaking part for the whole assembly.
 - ❖ Restrooms are located in the Narthex to the right of the front door and through the doors behind the choir to the left.
 - ❖ A nursery is available for your use. Ask an usher for directions.
 - ❖ Today's liturgy is Setting Eight from *Evangelical Lutheran Worship*.
 - ❖ Have questions? Ask the pastor. He is happy to discuss the movements of our worship service and why we do what we do as Lutherans.
-

ANNOUNCEMENTS

WELCOME PASTOR TIM BROWN!

The Rev. Timothy Brown serves as the ELCA Director for Congregational Stewardship. He will lead a stewardship-themed Sunday School at 9am in Goins Hall and preach during our 10am worship service. Thank you for joining us!

2026 MISSION SPENDING PLAN AVAILABLE FOR REVIEW

We will approve the 2026 Mission Spending Plan and elect four new council members following worship next Sunday. Please attend this important congregation meeting.

CONFIRMATION CLASS

The next confirmation class will be held on November 16, 2025 from 8:45 to 9:45 am.

SIGN UP FOR CONGREGATIONAL MEAL

Sign up sheet in the narthex for the Congregational Meal/Assemble Luminaries on December 7th. Sign-ups will end on December 3rd.

BIRTHDAY BOOKS FOR ST. JOHN'S PRESCHOOLERS

The Preschool Committee is excited to sponsor a Birthday Book Drive for our young disciples at St. John's Preschool! Giving young children books is one of the most meaningful ways to support their growth and development.



This small act of kindness from our church family demonstrates to our preschoolers that St. John's cares deeply for them. A birthday book given in love helps each child connect the church with kindness, generosity, and God's love in action.

Our goal is for every child in our preschool to receive a special book to keep on their birthday. View the Amazon wishlist by scanning the QR code!

GERMAN CHRISTMAS MARKET

Celebrate the magic of Christmas on Saturday, December 13 from 3:00-7:00 pm with a craft market, entertainment, food trucks, and tours of the heritage museum at St. John's Christmas Market Celebration! Come enjoy the season or sell your handcrafted items!

CUDDLE UP COAT DRIVE FOR KIDS

Local attorney Paula Yost Schupp is helping with the Annual Cuddle Up Coat Drive for Kids. This will run November 2025 - January 2026. Sponsored by Cabarrus Partnership for Children. Items needed are new or gently used coats, mittens, scarves, NEW socks and NEW underwear. Can be dropped off at County Law Shack on Hwy. 49. If you want to leave at church, let Ellen Goodman know and she can drop them off for you!

CHOIR MEMBERS NEEDED FOR HOLIDAYS

We are in need of choir members to help with the Christmas cantata. It is a collage of familiar carols in beautiful arrangements. Please consider joining us to make this a wonderful gift of music to the congregation. The cantata will be done on December 14th during the morning worship service.

HANDBELL RINGERS

We are restarting both a handbell choir for children, and for youth and adults. Children do not need to read music, as they will learn that as they play the bells. For the youth and adult choir, you need to be able to read music. If it's been years since you've used that skill, you will catch up in no time, as you only have two notes to play in the bell choir. Please consider being a part of this as we prepare music for the Advent and Christmas season.

TRUNK OR TREAT 2025

A huge success and so much fun! Eleven decorated trunks and 10 Ten Commandment tables welcomed over 50 trick or treaters with their parents and grandparents!! AND there were hotdogs for all to enjoy! Many, many thanks to ALL the folks who took the time to make this such an awesome event!

THANKSGIVING LUNCHEON

The Women of the Church hope you are making plans to attend our annual Thanksgiving Luncheon on Sunday the 23rd after Worship in Goins Hall. Our offering will go to CCM, Hospice, and Meals on Wheels. We will be collecting boxed food items for the Mt. Pleasant Food Pantry – Cereal, Crackers, Oatmeal, Rice, Mac and Cheese, Pasta, Powdered Milk, Grits, Rice-a-Roni, Popcorn, Biscuit Mix, Cake Mix, Brownie Mix, Cornbread Mix... Let's enjoy some time together at this luncheon and focus our hearts on Thanksgiving.

KAIROS PRISON MINISTRY CANCELED

The Kairos Weekend scheduled to start this Thursday, November 6 has been canceled due to flooding at the prison from the rains received last week. Maintenance was being done on the roof when the rains came causing the prison to shift some inmates to other prisons. The gym where we normally conduct our Weekends has been converted to emergency housing for some of the inmates. Please keep the Correction Officers the Superintendent, Chaplain Lambert and other administrative personnel in your prayers. Keep the inmates in your prayers, especially those that had been called to attend this Weekend. Also keep the team in your prayers as they had prepared tirelessly, sacrificing time and money, to serve. Money had already been spent for supplies for the Weekend, which can be used in the Spring. We will gladly accept any donations you feel called to give. Donations can be given to Gerald Cline or Jim Hayes. All donations are tax deductible. God's Peace!

THANK YOU

Roger Shoaf would like to thank all of his St. John's friends for the cards, flowers, phone calls and prayers during his recent health condition.

TEN WEEKS WITH THE TEN COMMANDMENTS

October is the tenth month of the year, and we will begin ten weeks exploring all Ten Commandments. In 1529, Martin Luther published the *Small Catechism* so households could explain to their children in simple terms the basics of the faith: The Ten Commandments, the Lord's Prayer, the Creed, the Sacraments, and simple prayers for daily living.

Today's Focus: The Sixth Commandment

You shall not commit adultery.

WHAT IS THIS? or WHAT DOES THIS MEAN?

We are to fear and love God, so that we lead pure and decent lives in word and deed, and each of us loves and honors his or her spouse.

✠ GATHERING ✠

The Holy Spirit calls us together as the people of God.

WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS

PRELUDE

A Tribute to Our Veterans

arr. Ritch

CONFESSION & FORGIVENESS

Blessed be the holy Trinity, ✠ one God, who forgives all our sin, whose mercy endures forever. **Amen.**

Let us confess our sin in the presence of God and of one another.

Faithful God, you have shown us the ways of your heart, yet we stray from your paths. We are stuck in sinful systems of oppression and do not embrace the freedom of your faithful promises. We ignore our neighbors. We exploit the earth. We reject your abundance, trusting our impulses instead of your steadfast love. Repair our relationships, restore what we have broken, renew our hearts, and bring us to new life. **Amen.**

Hear the good news: God the Faithful One loves you, ✠ in Christ Jesus your sins are forgiven, and by the power of the Holy Spirit you are set free. **Amen.**

GATHERING SONG

All People That on Earth Do Dwell

ELW #883



1 All peo - ple that on earth do dwell, sing to the
2 Know that the Lord is God in - deed; with - out our
3 Oh, en - ter then his gates with praise; ap - proach with
4 For why? The Lord our God is good: his mer - cy
5 To Fa - ther, Son, and Ho - ly Ghost, the God whom



Lord with cheer - ful voice; him serve with mirth, his
aid he did us make. We are his folk, he
joy his courts un - to; praise, laud, and bless his
is for - ev - er sure; his truth at all times
heav'n and earth a - dore, from us and from the



praise forth tell; come ye be - fore him and re - joice.
doth us feed, and for his sheep he doth us take.
name al - ways, for it is seem - ly so to do.
firm - ly stood, and shall from age to age en - dure.
an - gel host be praise and glo - ry ev - er - more.

GREETING

The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all. **And also with you.**

KYRIE

Refrain



Ky-ri-e e-lei-son, on our world and on our way.



Ky-ri-e e-lei-son, ev-'ry day.



1 For peace in the world, for the health of the church, for the
 2 That we may live out your im-passioned re-sponse to the
 3 For peace in our hearts, . . . for peace in our homes, . . . for
 4 For your Spir-it to guide; that you cen-ter our lives in the



u-ni-ty of all; for
 hun-gry and the poor; that
 friends and fam-i-ly; for
 wa-ter and the word; that you



this ho-ly house, for all who wor-ship and praise,
 we may live out truth and jus-tice and grace,
 life and for love, for our work and our play,
 nour-ish our souls . . . with your bod-y and blood,



Refrain

let us pray to the Lord, let us pray to the Lord.

PRAYER OF THE DAY

Let us pray. O God, our eternal redeemer, by the presence of your Spirit you renew and direct our hearts. Keep always in our mind the end of all things and the day of judgment. Inspire us for a holy life here, and bring us to the joy of the resurrection, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. **Amen.**

✠ WORD ✠

God speaks to us in scripture reading, preaching, and song.

TIME FOR OUR YOUNGEST DISCIPLES

Children are invited to come forward for a conversation with the pastor.

FIRST READING: JOB 19:23-27a

A reading from Job.

²³ “O that my words were written down!
O that they were inscribed in a book!
²⁴ O that with an iron pen and with lead
they were engraved on a rock forever!
²⁵ For I know that my vindicator lives
and that in the end he will stand upon the earth;
²⁶ and after my skin has been destroyed,
then in my flesh I shall see God,
^{27a} whom I shall see on my side,
and my eyes shall behold, and not another.”

The word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

PSALM 17:1-9

We read a portion of Psalm 17 responsively.

¹ Hear a just cause, O Lord; attend to my cry;
give ear to my prayer from lips free of deceit.
² **From you let my vindication come;
let your eyes see the right.**
³ If you try my heart, if you visit me by night,
if you test me, you will find no wickedness
in me; my mouth does not transgress.
⁴ **As for what others do, by the word of your
lips I have avoided the ways of the violent.**
⁵ My steps have held fast to your paths;

my feet have not slipped.
⁶ **I call upon you, for you will answer me, O
God; incline your ear to me; hear my words.**
⁷ Wondrously show your steadfast love,
O savior of those who seek refuge
from their adversaries at your right hand.
⁸ **Guard me as the apple of the eye;
hide me in the shadow of your wings,**
⁹ from the wicked who despoil me,
my deadly enemies who surround me.

SECOND READING: 2 THESSALONIANS 2:1-5, 13-17

A reading from 2nd Thessalonians.


¹ As to the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ and our being gathered together to him, we beg you, brothers and sisters, ² not to be quickly shaken in mind or alarmed, either by spirit or by word or by letter, as though from us, to the effect that the day of the Lord is already here. ³ Let no one deceive you in any way, for that day will not come unless the rebellion comes first and the lawless one is revealed, the one destined for destruction. ⁴ He opposes and exalts himself above every so-called god or object of worship, so that he takes his seat in the temple of God, declaring himself to be God. ⁵ Do you not remember that I told you these things when I was still with you?

¹³ But we must always give thanks to God for you, brothers and sisters beloved by the Lord, because God chose you as the first fruits for salvation through sanctification by the Spirit and through belief in the truth. ¹⁴ For this purpose he called you through our gospel, so that you may obtain the glory of our Lord Jesus Christ. ¹⁵ So then, brothers and sisters, stand firm and hold fast to the traditions that you were taught by us, either by word of mouth or by our letter.

¹⁶ Now may our Lord Jesus Christ himself and God our Father, who loved us and through grace gave us eternal comfort and good hope, ¹⁷ comfort your hearts and strengthen them in every good work and word.

The word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION



Al - le - lu - ia. Lord, to whom shall we go? You have the
words of e - ter - nal life. Al - le - lu - ia.
Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia. Al - le - lu - ia.
Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.

GOSPEL: LUKE 20:27-38

The holy gospel according to Luke. **Glory to you, O Lord.**

²⁷ Some Sadducees, those who say there is no resurrection, came to [Jesus] ²⁸ and asked him a question: “Teacher, Moses wrote for us that if a man’s brother dies leaving a wife but no children, the man shall marry the widow and raise up children for his brother. ²⁹ Now there were seven brothers; the first married a woman and died childless; ³⁰ then the second ³¹ and the third married her, and so in the same way all seven died childless. ³² Finally the woman also died. ³³ In the resurrection, therefore, whose wife will the woman be? For the seven had married her.”

³⁴ Jesus said to them, “Those who belong to this age marry and are given in marriage, ³⁵ but those who are considered worthy of a place in that age and in the resurrection from the dead neither marry nor are given in marriage. ³⁶ Indeed, they cannot die anymore, because they are like angels and are children of God, being children of the resurrection. ³⁷ And the fact that the dead are raised Moses himself showed, in the story about the bush, where he speaks of the Lord as the God of Abraham, the God of Isaac, and the God of Jacob. ³⁸ Now he is God not of the dead but of the living, for to him all of them are alive.”

The gospel of the Lord. **Praise to you, O Christ.**

SERMON

The Rev. Timothy Brown

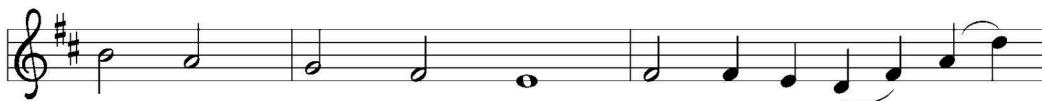
HYMN OF THE DAY

I Know That My Redeemer Lives!

ELW #619



1 I know that my Re - deem - er lives! What com - fort
2 He lives tri - um - phant from the grave; he lives e -
3 He lives to grant me rich sup - ply; he lives to
4 He lives to si - lence all my fears; he lives to



this sweet sen - tence gives! He lives, he lives, who
ter - nal - ly to save; he lives ex - alt - ed,
guide me with his eye; he lives to com - fort
wipe a - way my tears; he lives to calm my



once was dead; he lives, my ev - er - liv - ing head!
throned a - bove; he lives to rule his church in love.
me when faint; he lives to hear my soul's com - plaint.
trou - bled heart; he lives all bless - ings to im - part.

THE APOSTLES' CREED

With the whole Church, we confess our faith.

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.

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

Lord in your mercy, hear our prayer.

PEACE

The peace of Christ be with you always. **And also with you.**

✠ MEAL ✠

God feeds us with the presence of Jesus Christ.

OFFERING

You may give online, by visiting www.stjohnsconcord.com/give or by texting “give” to (704) 706-2115.



OFFERTORY ANTHEM

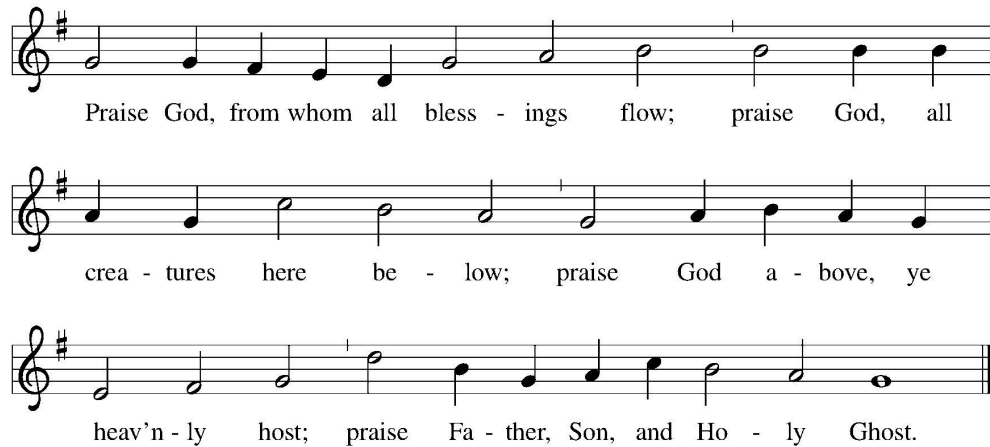
In Christ Alone

Getty/arr. Townend

OFFERING SONG

Praise God, From Whom All Blessings Flow

ELW #885



Praise God, from whom all bless - ings flow; praise God, all
crea - tures here be - low; praise God a - bove, ye
heav'n - ly host; praise Fa - ther, Son, and Ho - ly Ghost.

OFFERING PRAYER

Let us pray. God of healing and hope, you bless those who are hungry, promising to fill them with good things. **Fulfill that promise through us and these your gifts. Nourish us with the abundance of your feast and unite us into the blessed body of Jesus Christ our Savior, now and forever. Amen.**

THE GREAT THANKSGIVING

The Lord be with you. **And also with you.**

Lift up your hearts. **We lift them to the Lord.**

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God. **It is right to give our thanks and praise.**

PREFACE

It is indeed right, our duty and our joy, that we should at all times and in all places give thanks and praise to you, almighty and merciful God, through our Savior Jesus Christ; who on this day overcame death and the grave, and by his glorious resurrection opened to us the way of everlasting life. And so, with all the choirs of angels, with the church on earth and the hosts of heaven, we praise your name and join their unending hymn:

SANCTUS

Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow'r and might,
heav-en and earth are full of your glo - ry, full of your glo-ry. Ho -
san - na, ho - san - na, ho - san - na in the high -
est. Bless-ed is he who comes in the name of the Lord. Ho -
san - na, ho - san - na, ho - san - na in the high - est.

THANKSGIVING AT THE TABLE

Holy God, holy and mighty, holy and immortal: surrounded by evil and bordered by death we appeal to you, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit. We praise you for Christ, who proclaimed your reign of peace and promised an end to injustice and harm.

In the night in which he was betrayed, our Lord Jesus took bread, and gave thanks; broke it, and gave it to his disciples, saying: Take and eat; this is my body, given for you. Do this for the remembrance of me. Again, after supper, he took the cup, gave thanks, and gave it for all to drink, saying: This cup is the new covenant in my blood, shed for you and for all people for the forgiveness of sin. Do this for the remembrance of me.

Remembering, therefore, the sacrifice of his life and death and the victory of his resurrection, we await with all the saints his loving redemption of our suffering world. Send your Spirit on these gifts of bread and wine and on all who share in the body and blood of your Son: teach us your mercy and justice, and make all things new in Christ. Through him all glory and honor is yours, Almighty Father, with the Holy Spirit, in your holy Church, both now and forever. **Amen.**

LORD'S PRAYER

As our Savior Christ taught us, we are bold to say:

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.

INVITATION TO COMMUNION

There is a place for you at the table of God. Come, receive the food that does not perish, a taste of life eternal.

DISTRIBUTION

- ❖ *You are welcome to receive Holy Communion. If you would prefer to receive a blessing instead, please come forward during the distribution with your arms crossed.*
- ❖ ***Please note: The homemade communion bread is gluten, dairy, and nut free.** If you prefer a wafer, please indicate by raising a finger as you approach the pastor.*
- ❖ *Grape juice, instead of wine, is also available.*

POST COMMUNION PRAYER

Let us pray. God of field and flower, wheat and grape, you have nourished us with the bread of heaven that gives life to the world. Strengthened by the body and blood of your Son, send us out to gather your good gifts for all who hunger and thirst, and embolden us to love and serve in Christ's name. Amen.

✠ SENDING ✠

God blesses us and sends us in mission to the world.

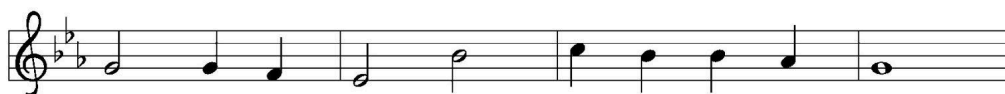
BLESSING

The God of hope fill you with all joy and peace in believing, so that you may abound in hope by the power of the Holy Spirit. **Amen.**

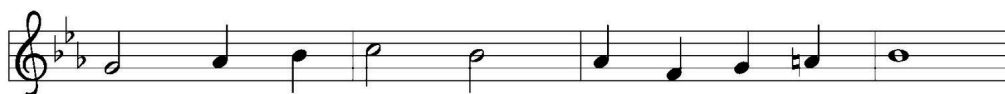
SENDING SONG

Abide with Me

ELW #629



1 A - bide with me, fast falls the e - ven - tide.
2 Swift to its close ebbs out life's lit - tle day;
3 I need thy pres - ence ev - 'ry pass - ing hour;
4 I fear no foe, with thee at hand to bless;
5 Hold thou thy cross be - fore my clos - ing eyes,



The dark - ness deep - ens; Lord, with me a - bide.
earth's joys grow dim, its glo - ries pass a - way;
what but thy grace can foil the tempt - er's pow'r?
ills have no weight, and tears no bit - ter - ness.
shine through the gloom, and point me to the skies;



When oth - er help - ers fail and com - forts flee,
change and de - cay in all a - round I see;
Who like thy - self my guide and stay can be?
Where is death's sting? Where, grave, thy vic - to - ry?
heav'n's morn - ing breaks, and earth's vain shad - ows flee;



help of the help - less, oh, a - bide with me.
O thou who chang - est not, a - bide with me.
Through cloud and sun - shine, oh, a - bide with me.
I tri - umph still, if thou a - bide with me!
in life, in death, O Lord, a - bide with me.

DISMISSAL

Go in peace. Share the harvest. **Thanks be to God.**

POSTLUDE

God of Our Fathers

Warren

SERVING TODAY

The Rev. Matt Hansen *Presiding Minister*

The Rev. Timothy Brown *Guest Preacher*

Catherine Ritch *Organist*

Etta Rowland *Lector*

Ellen & Rathel Goodman, Gerald Cline *Communion Assistants*

Bob Cavalline, Rick McRorie, Ken & David Rowland *Ushers*

Rowland Family *Livestream Support*

Angela Ferguson & Annette Herring *Nursery Attendants*

Rathel & Ellen Goodman *Altar Guild*

Bob Cavalline *Teller Lead*

CONTACT US

BY PHONE

Melinda Redding, Church Office (704) 436-6081

Admin Assistant's Mobile (704) 213-0784

ONLINE

Office Email office@stjohnsconcord.com

Pastor Matt's Email matt@stjohnsconcord.com

ON-SITE

Address 100 St. John's Church Rd, Concord, NC 28025

Church Office Hours Mon–Thu, 8am–1:30pm; Fri, 8am–Noon

Pastor Matt's Office Hours Mon–Thu, *by appointment*.

↪ *Please note: Pastor Matt observes Sabbath every Friday* ↩

The mission of St. John's Lutheran Church is to share God's love through revitalization, community, and outreach.



Copyright © 2025 Augsburg Fortress. All rights reserved. Reprinted by permission under Augsburg Fortress Liturgies Annual License #SAS016664.
New Revised Standard Version Updated Edition. Copyright © 2021 National Council of Churches of Christ in the United States of America. Used by permission. All rights reserved worldwide.
Revised Common Lectionary, Copyright © 1992 Consultation on Common Texts, admin Augsburg Fortress.