



St. John's Lutheran Church

A congregation of The Lutheran Church – Missouri Synod

Fourth Sunday after Pentecost

June 21, 2026

10:45 a.m. Worship



TO VIEW THE SERVICE WHILE IT IS GOING ON LIVE ... go to our Facebook Page <https://www.facebook.com/sjlmidland/> Since this is a PUBLIC PAGE, you do not need to have a personal Facebook account in order to view the livestream.

The video of the service will be available for viewing on Facebook following the service so others can view it later.

Faithful Father, Gracious God

As we gather to worship God and also give thanks for earthly fathers and father figures, we are reminded that every good and faithful father reflects, in part, the perfect love of our heavenly Father. Today we rejoice in God's steadfast care, His patient mercy, and His unchanging faithfulness revealed to us in Jesus Christ. As we worship, may God heal what is broken, strengthen what is weak, and draw us ever deeper into the security of His fatherly love, which never fails and never lets us go.

"Who You Say I Am"

Words and Music by Ben Fielding and Reuben Morgan
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Who am I that the highest King would welcome me
I was lost but He brought me in. Oh, His love for me. Oh, His love for me.

Who the Son sets free, oh is free indeed. I'm a child of God, yes I am.

Free at last, He has ransomed me, His grace runs deep.
While I was a slave to sin, Jesus died for me. Yes, He died for me.

Who the Son sets free, oh is free indeed. I'm a child of God, yes I am.
In my Father's house there's a place for me. I'm a child of God, yes I am.

I am chosen, not forsaken. I am who You say I am.
You are for me, not against me. I am who You say I am.
I am chosen, not forsaken. I am who You say I am.
You are for me, not against me. I am who You say I am.
I am who You say I am.

Who the Son sets free, oh is free indeed. I'm a child of God, yes I am.
In my Father's house there's a place for me. I'm a child of God, yes I am.
In my Father's house there's a place for me. I'm a child of God, yes I am.

(Instrumental)

I am chosen, not forsaken. I am who You say I am.
You are for me, not against me. I am who You say I am.

I am chosen, not forsaken. I am who You say I am.
You are for me, not against me. I am who You say I am.
Oh, I am who You say I am. Yes, I am who You say I am.

Who the Son sets free, oh is free indeed. I'm a child of God, yes I am.
In my Father's house there's a place for me. I'm a child of God, yes I am.

Invocation

P In the name of the Father and of the T Son and of the Holy Spirit.
C Amen.

Confession and Absolution

P Let us confess our sins to God, our Father.
C **Merciful God and loving Father, we confess that we have not always trusted You as we should. Too often we have doubted Your goodness, resisted Your guidance, and failed to rest in Your care. We have sinned against You in thought, word, and deed, and have not loved You with our whole heart or our neighbors as ourselves. Forgive us for the sake of Jesus Christ, Your Son, who shows us Your perfect love and gave His life for our salvation. Renew us by Your Spirit, and teach us to live as Your beloved children.**
P Almighty God, our heavenly Father, has had mercy upon you and has given His only Son, Jesus Christ, to die for you and to rise again for your forgiveness and life. Upon this your confession, I, as your brother in Christ, forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the T Son and of the Holy Spirit. May the peace of God, which surpasses all understanding, guard your hearts and minds in Christ Jesus.
C Amen.

Introit

Ps. 56:3-4, 10-11; antiphon: Ps. 56:13

For you have delivered my soul from death, yes, my feet from falling,
that I may walk before God in the light of life.

When I am afraid,

I put my trust in you.

In God, whose word I praise, in God I trust; I shall not be afraid.
What can flesh do to me?

**In God, whose word I praise,
in the LORD, whose word I praise,**

in God I trust; I shall not be afraid.
What can man do to me?

**Glory be to the Father and to the Son
and to the Holy Spirit;**

**as it was in the beginning,
is now, and will be forever. Amen.**

For you have delivered my soul from death, yes, my feet from falling,
that I may walk before God in the light of life.

Collect of the Day

P Let us pray:

O God, because Your abiding presence always goes with us, keep us aware of Your daily mercies that we may live secure and content in Your eternal love; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C **Amen.**

Old Testament Reading

Jeremiah 20:7-13

O LORD, you have deceived me, and I was deceived; you are stronger than I, and you have prevailed. I have become a laughingstock all the day; everyone mocks me. For whenever I speak, I cry out, I shout, "Violence and destruction!" For the word of the LORD has become for me a reproach and derision all day long. If I say, "I will not mention him, or speak any more in his name," there is in my heart as it were a burning fire shut up in my bones, and I am weary with holding it in, and I cannot. For I hear many whispering. Terror is on every side! "Denounce him! Let us denounce him!" say all my close friends, watching for my fall. "Perhaps he will be deceived; then we can overcome him and take our revenge on him."

But the LORD is with me as a dread warrior; therefore my persecutors will stumble; they will not overcome me. They will be greatly shamed, for they will not succeed. Their eternal dishonor will never be forgotten. O LORD of hosts, who tests the righteous, who sees the heart and the mind, let me see your vengeance upon them, for to you have I committed my cause. Sing to the LORD; praise the LORD! For he has delivered the life of the needy from the hand of evildoers.

P This is the Word of the Lord.

C **Thanks be to God.**

Epistle

Romans 6:12-23

Let not sin therefore reign in your mortal bodies, to make you obey their passions. Do not present your members to sin as instruments for unrighteousness, but present yourselves to God as those who have been brought from death to life, and your members to God as instruments for righteousness. For sin will have no dominion over you, since you are not under law but under grace.

What then? Are we to sin because we are not under law but under grace? By no means! Do you not know that if you present yourselves to anyone as obedient slaves, you are slaves of the one whom you obey, either of sin, which leads to death, or of obedience, which leads to righteousness? But thanks be to God, that you who were once slaves of sin have become obedient from the heart to the standard of teaching to which you were

committed, and, having been set free from sin, have become slaves of righteousness. I am speaking in human terms, because of your natural limitations. For just as you once presented your members as slaves to impurity and to lawlessness leading to more lawlessness, so now present your members as slaves to righteousness leading to sanctification.

When you were slaves of sin, you were free in regard to righteousness. But what fruit were you getting at that time from the things of which you are now ashamed? The end of those things is death. But now that you have been set free from sin and have become slaves of God, the fruit you get leads to sanctification and its end, eternal life. For the wages of sin is death, but the free gift of God is eternal life in Christ Jesus our Lord.

P This is the Word of the Lord.

C **Thanks be to God.**

Holy Gospel

Matthew 10:5a, 21-33

P The Holy Gospel according to St. Matthew, the tenth chapter.

C **Glory to You, O Lord.**

These twelve Jesus sent out, instructing them, “Go nowhere among the Gentiles and enter no town of the Samaritans...

“Brother will deliver brother over to death, and the father his child, and children will rise against parents and have them put to death, and you will be hated by all for my name’s sake. But the one who endures to the end will be saved. When they persecute you in one town, flee to the next, for truly, I say to you, you will not have gone through all the towns of Israel before the Son of Man comes.

“A disciple is not above his teacher, nor a servant above his master. It is enough for the disciple to be like his teacher, and the servant like his master. If they have called the master of the house Beelzebul, how much more will they malign those of his household.

“So have no fear of them, for nothing is covered that will not be revealed, or hidden that will not be known. What I tell you in the dark, say in the light, and what you hear whispered, proclaim on the housetops. And do not fear those who kill the body but cannot kill the soul. Rather fear him who can destroy both soul and body in hell. Are not two sparrows sold for a penny? And not one of them will fall to the ground apart from your Father. But even the hairs of your head are all numbered. Fear not, therefore; you are of more value than many sparrows. So everyone who acknowledges me before men, I also will acknowledge before my Father who is in heaven, but whoever denies me before men, I also will deny before my Father who is in heaven.

P This is the Gospel of the Lord.

C **Praise to You, O Christ.**

Nicene Creed

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 Spirit 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 sits at the right hand of the Father.
And He will come again with glory to judge both the living and the
dead,
whose kingdom will have no end.

And I believe in the Holy Spirit,
the Lord and giver of life,
who proceeds from the Father and the Son,
who with the Father and the Son together is worshiped and glorified,
who spoke by the prophets.
And I believe in 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 T of the world to come. Amen.

Children's Message

Deacon Townley

♪ “Good Good Father”

Words and Music by Pat Barrett And Anthony Brown

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I've heard a thousand stories of what they think You're like,
But I've heard the tender whisper of love in the dead of night.
You tell me that You're pleased, And that I'm never alone.

Chorus: You're a Good, Good Father;
It's who You are, It's who You are, It's who You are.
And I'm loved by You;
It's who I am, It's who I am, It's who I am.

I've seen many searching for answers far and wide,
But I know we're all searching for answers only You provide.
Because You know just what we need before we say a word. (*Chorus 2x*)

Bridge: You are perfect in all of Your ways.
You are perfect in all of Your ways.
You are perfect in all of Your ways to us. (*Repeat*)

Love so undeniable, I can hardly speak.
Peace so unexplainable, I can hardly think
As You call me deeper still, as You call me deeper still,
As You call me deeper still into love, love, love. (*Chorus 2x*)

Sermon

Offering

Prayer of the Church

The Lord's Prayer

C 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.

Communion Preparation

P Let us pray.

C Gracious and loving Father, as we come to Your Table, we thank
You for the gift of Your Son, Jesus Christ, who welcomes us as

Your beloved children. Prepare our hearts by Your Holy Spirit to receive His true body and blood with repentance, faith, and joyful trust in Your promises. Forgive our sins, quiet our fears, and strengthen our confidence in Your unfailing love. Nourish us through this holy meal, that we may be renewed to live as Your people, reflecting Your grace in all we do; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

The Words of Institution

♪ “Run to the Father”

Words and Music by Cody Carnes, Ran Jackson and Matt Maher
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I've carried a burden for too long on my own.
I wasn't created to bear it alone.
I hear Your invitation to let it all go.
I see it now. I'm laying it down.
And I know that I need You.

Chorus: I run to the Father, I fall into grace.
I'm done with the hiding, no reason to wait.
My heart needs a surgeon, my soul needs a friend.
So I'll run to the Father again and again
And again and again. Oh, oh, (oh).

(2nd time) Again and again and again and again. Oh, oh, oh.

You saw my condition, had a plan from the start.
Your Son for redemption: the price for my heart.
I don't have a context for that kind of love.
I don't understand, I can't comprehend.
All I know is I need You. (*Chorus*)

Bridge: My heart has been in Your sights
Long before my first breath.
Running into Your arms
Is running to life from death.
And I feel this rush deep in my chest.
Your mercy is calling out. Just as I am,
You pull me in, and I know I need You now.

Chorus: I run to the Father, I fall into grace.
I'm done with the hiding, no reason to wait.
My heart needs a surgeon, my soul needs a friend.
So I'll run to the Father again and again

Chorus: I run to the Father, I fall into grace.
I'm done with the hiding, no reason to wait.
My heart found a surgeon, my soul found a friend.
So I'll run to the Father again and again
And again and again. Oh, oh.
Again and again and again and again. Oh, oh, oh.
Again and again.

🎵 “Jesus Loves Me”

Words and Music by Chris Tomlin, Reuben Morgan and Ben Glover
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Worship Together Music

I was lost, I was in chains, the world had a hold of me.
My heart was a stone, I was covered in shame
When He came for me.

I couldn't run, couldn't run from His presence.
I couldn't run, couldn't run from His arms.

Chorus: Jesus, He loves me, He loves me, He is for me!
Jesus, how can it be? He loves me, He is for me!

It was a fire deep in my soul. I'll never be the same.
I stepped out of the dark and into the light
When He called my name.

I couldn't run, couldn't run from His presence.
I couldn't run, couldn't run from His arms. (*Chorus*)

He holds the stars, and He holds my heart
With healing hands that bear the scars.
The rugged cross where He died for me,
My only hope, my everything!

Jesus, He loves me. He loves me, oh!
Jesus, how can it be? He loves me, He is for me!
He loves me, He loves me.
He loves me, He is for me.
My God, it's amazing, oh.
Jesus loves me.

Benediction

P The Lord bless thee and keep thee.
The Lord make His face shine upon thee and be gracious to thee.
The Lord lift up His countenance upon thee and T give thee peace.

C **Amen.**

♪ “Battle Belongs”

Words and Music by Phil Wickham and Brian Johnson CCLI #1367966

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When all I see is the battle, You see my victory.
When all I see is the mountain, You see a mountain moved.
And as I walk through the shadow, Your love surrounds me.
There's nothing to fear now for I am safe with You.

Chorus: So when I fight, I'll fight on my knees
 With my hands lifted high,
 O God the battle belongs to You.
 And every fear I lay at Your feet,
 I'll sing through the night,
 O God the battle belongs to You.

And if You are for me who can be against me?
For, Jesus there's nothing impossible for You.

When all I see are the ashes, You see the beauty.
When all I see is a cross, God You see the empty tomb. *(Chorus)*

Bridge (3x): (An) Almighty Fortress You go before us.
 Nothing can stand against the power of our God.
 You shine in the shadows, You win every battle.
 Nothing can stand against the power of our God.

Chorus

Ending: O God, the battle belongs to You.

Announcements

Blessing and Dismissal

P May God our heavenly Father bless you with His steadfast love, keep you in His care, and strengthen you in the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ.

C **Amen.**

P Go in peace, serve the Lord.

C **Thanks be to God.**

Announcements

SJL Men's Softball! Come cheer on the St. John's men's softball team **this Monday at 7:45 at RC 4.** You can find the season schedule along with directions to the fields on the bulletin board and the church website. See you there!

Creeds in the Early Church is a special two evening event taking place here at St John's on June 22 & June 23 at 6:30-8pm in Room 3. Join Edmund Stark as he gives a general introduction on the creeds, the development of the Apostles' Creed through the history of the church, and the driving forces that brought us the Nicene Creed. Writings from the 1st century will be studied, as well as the people who wrote them.

LifeClinic baby bottles are due to the church office today.

*Altar flowers are given in celebration of
Dwight and Sally Hoffman's
56th Wedding Anniversary!*

Acknowledgments

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