



St. John's Lutheran Church

A congregation of The Lutheran Church – Missouri Synod

Tenth Sunday After Pentecost

August 2, 2026

10:45 a.m. Worship



O 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.

Fed by God's Abundant Grace

Today we hear of Jesus feeding the five thousand, revealing God's abundant compassion and His power to provide for every need. In Christ, we receive far more than daily bread—we are given the Bread of Life, who satisfies our deepest hunger with forgiveness, hope, and everlasting life. As we gather in worship today, may the Lord fill us with gratitude for His generous gifts, strengthen our trust in His faithful provision, and nourish us through His Word with all that we need for life and faith.

♪ “Living Waters”

Words and Music by Kristyn Getty and Ed Cash CCLI #1367966
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Are you thirsty? Are you empty?
Come and drink these living waters.
Tired and broken, peace unspoken,
Rest beside these living waters.

Christ is calling, find refreshing
At the cross of living waters.
Lay your life down, all the old gone,
Rise up in these living waters.

Chorus: There's a river that flows with mercy and love,
 Bringing joy to the city of our God;
 There our hope is secure, do not fear anymore,
 Praise the Lord of living waters.

Spirit moving, mercy washing;
Healing in these living waters.
Lead Your children to the shoreline,
Life is in these living waters. (*Chorus*)

Instrumental

Are you thirsty? Are you empty?
Come and drink these living waters.
Love, forgiveness, vast and boundless,
Christ, He is our living waters. (*Chorus*)

Ending: There our hope is secure, do not fear anymore,
 Praise the Lord of living waters.

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 Father, we confess that we have too often doubted Your goodness and failed to trust in Your faithful provision. We have worried about tomorrow instead of resting in Your promises, and we have been slow to share the many blessings You have entrusted to us. At times we have sought satisfaction in the things of this world rather than in the Bread of Life, Jesus Christ. Forgive us for the sake of Your Son. Renew our hearts by Your Holy Spirit, that we may trust in Your abundant grace, receive Your gifts with thanksgiving, and gladly serve our neighbors in love. Amen.**

P Almighty God, our heavenly Father, in His great mercy has given His Son, Jesus Christ, to die and rise again for the forgiveness of your sins. Upon this your confession, I, as a called and ordained servant of Christ, forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit. May the Lord, who richly provides for all your needs, strengthen your faith, fill you with His peace, and nourish you by His grace unto life everlasting.

C **Amen.**

Introit

Ps. 105:39-43; antiphon: Ps. 105:1

Oh give thanks to the LORD; call upon his name; make known his deeds among the peoples!

He spread a cloud for a covering, and fire to give light by night.

They asked, and he brought quail, and gave them bread from heaven in abundance.

He opened the rock, and water gushed out; it flowed through the desert like a river.

For he remembered his holy promise, and Abraham, his servant.

So he brought his people out with joy, his chosen ones with singing.

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.

Oh give thanks to the LORD; call upon his name; make known his deeds among the peoples!

Collect of the Day

P Let us pray:

Heavenly Father, though we do not deserve Your goodness, still You provide for all our needs of body and soul. Grant us Your Holy Spirit that we may acknowledge Your gifts, give thanks for all Your benefits, and serve You in willing obedience; 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

Isaiah 55: 1-5

“Come, everyone who thirsts, come to the waters; and he who has no money, come, buy and eat! Come, buy wine and milk without money and without price. Why do you spend your money for that which is not bread, and your labor for that which does not satisfy? Listen diligently to me, and eat what is good, and delight yourselves in rich food. Incline your ear, and come to me; hear, that your soul may live; and I will make with you an everlasting covenant, my steadfast, sure love for David. Behold, I made him a witness to the peoples, a leader and commander for the peoples. Behold, you shall call a nation that you do not know, and a nation that did not know you shall run to you, because of the Lord your God, and of the Holy One of Israel, for he has glorified you.”

P This is the Word of the Lord.

C **Thanks be to God.**

Epistle

Romans 9:1-13

I am speaking the truth in Christ—I am not lying; my conscience bears me witness in the Holy Spirit—that I have great sorrow and unceasing anguish in my heart. For I could wish that I myself were accursed and cut off from Christ for the sake of my brothers, my kinsmen according to the flesh. They are Israelites, and to them belong the adoption, the glory, the covenants, the giving of the law, the worship, and the promises. To them belong the patriarchs, and from their race, according to the flesh, is the Christ who is God over all, blessed forever. Amen.

But it is not as though the word of God has failed. For not all who are descended from Israel belong to Israel, and not all are children of Abraham because they are his offspring, but “Through Isaac shall your offspring be named.” This means that it is not the children of the flesh who are the children of God, but the children of the promise are counted as offspring. For this is what the promise said: “About this time next year I will return and Sarah shall have a son.” And not only so, but also when Rebecca had conceived children by one man, our forefather Isaac, though they were not yet born and had done nothing either good or bad—in order that God’s purpose of election might continue, not because of works but because of his call— she was told, “The older will serve the younger.” As it is written, “Jacob I loved, but Esau I hated.”

P This is the Word of the Lord.

C **Thanks be to God.**

Holy Gospel

Matthew 14:13-21

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

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

Now when Jesus heard [about the death of John], he withdrew from there in a boat to a desolate place by himself. But when the crowds heard it, they followed him on foot from the towns.

When he went ashore he saw a great crowd, and he had compassion on them and healed their sick. Now when it was evening, the disciples came to him and said, "This is a desolate place, and the day is now over; send the crowds away to go into the villages and buy food for themselves." But Jesus said, "They need not go away; you give them something to eat." They said to him, "We have only five loaves here and two fish." And he said, "Bring them here to me." Then he ordered the crowds to sit down on the grass, and taking the five loaves and the two fish, he looked up to heaven and said a blessing. Then he broke the loaves and gave them to the disciples, and the disciples gave them to the crowds. And they all ate and were satisfied. And they took up twelve baskets full of the broken pieces left over. And those who ate were about five thousand men, besides women and children.

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 of the world to come. Amen.

Children's Message

Alaine Massey & Jessica Theimer

♪ "Goodness of God"

Words and Music by Jenn Johnson, Ed Cash, Jason Ingram, Ben Fielding and Brian Johnson
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Bethel Music Publishing

I love You, Lord. Oh, Your mercy never fails me.
All my days I've been held in Your hands.
From the moment that I wake up until I lay my head,
I will sing of the goodness of God.

Chorus: All my life You have been faithful.
All my life You have been so, so good.
With every breath that I am able
I will sing of the goodness of God.

I love Your voice. You have led me through the fire.
In darkest night, You are close like no other.
I've known You as a father, I've known You as a friend.
I have lived in the goodness of God. (*Chorus*)

Bridge (2x): Your goodness is running after, it's running after me.
Your goodness is running after, it's running after me.
With my life laid down, I'm surrendered now;
I give You everything.
Your goodness is running after, it's running after me.

Chorus: All my life You have been faithful.
All my life You have been so, so good.
With every breath that I am able
I will sing of the goodness of God.
I will sing of the goodness of God.

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 God, You have prepared this holy feast as a gift of Your
abundant love and mercy. As we come to Your Table, prepare our
hearts by Your Holy Spirit to receive with repentance, faith, and
thanksgiving the true body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ. As
You fed the hungry with bread in the wilderness, now nourish us
with the Bread of Life, strengthening our faith, assuring us of Your
forgiveness, and filling us with love for You and for one another.
Through this sacred meal, sustain us in hope and send us forth to
share Your compassion and generosity with the world; through
Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

The Words of Institution

🎵 “Change My Heart, Oh God”

Words and Music by Eddie Espinosa
©1982 Mercy/Vineyard Publishing (admin. by Music Services)

Change my heart, oh God, make it ever true.
Change my heart, oh God, may I be like You.

You are the Potter, I am the clay.
Mold me and make me, this is what I pray.

Change my heart, oh God, make it ever true.
Change my heart, oh God, may I be like You. *(Repeat from beginning)*

You are the Potter, I am the clay.
Mold me and make me, this is what I pray.

Change my heart, oh God, make it ever true.
Change my heart, oh God, may I be like You.
May I be like You. May I be like You.

♪ “Amazing Grace (My Chains Are Gone)”

Words and Music by John Newton, Christ Tomlin and Louie Giglio
©2006 Rising Springs Music | Vamos Publishing | worshiptogether.com songs

Amazing grace how sweet the sound,
That saved a wretch like me.
I once was lost but now I'm found;
Was blind, but now I see.

Through many dangers, toils, and snares
I have already come;
His grace has brought me safe thus far,
His grace will lead me home.

Chorus: My chains are gone, I've been set free.
My God my Savior has ransomed me.
And like a flood, His mercy reigns.
Unending love, amazing grace.

The Lord has promised good to me,
His word my hope secures.
He will my shield and portion be,
As long as life endures.

Chorus (2x)

song continued on p.8

The earth shall soon dissolve like snow,
The sun forbear to shine.
But God who called me here below
Will be forever mine...
Will be forever mine...
You are forever mine.

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.**

“Great Things”

Words and Music by Phil Wickham and Jonas Myrin

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Come let us worship our King. Come let us bow at His feet.
He has done great things.
See what our Savior has done. See how His love overcomes.
He has done great things. He has done great things.

Chorus: O Hero of Heaven, You conquered the grave.
You free every captive and break every chain.
O God, You have done great things.
We dance in Your freedom, awake and alive.
O Jesus our Savior, Your name lifted high.
O God, You have done great things.

You’ve been faithful through every storm.
You’ll be faithful forevermore. You have done great things.
And I know You will do it again for Your promise is Yes and Amen.
You will do great things. God You do great things. (*Chorus*)

Hallelujah, God above it all. Hallelujah, God unshakable.
Hallelujah, You have done great things (REPEAT)
You’ve done great things (*Chorus*)

Ending: You have done great things
O God You do great things

Announcements

Blessing and Dismissal

- P May the Lord who feeds you with His abundant grace strengthen your faith, fill your hearts with thanksgiving, and sustain you with the hope and peace of Christ.
- C **Amen.**
- P Go in peace, serve the Lord.
- C **Thanks be to God.**

As we conclude, please feel free to stay for a few minutes if you would like to connect or chat with people Jesus has brought together today. Remember that we are all in this together!

Announcements

Summer Trip Recap

It's been a big summer for our SJL Youth! Eleven students attended the MI District Youth Gathering on Mackinac Island and four travelled to Asheville for the Appalachian Servant Event. Join us during Bible study hour on Sunday, August 16 to hear the students recap their experiences!

The Signup Genius list is being updated. Many of the emails we have used in the past are being blocked. This could be a bad email or your email provider is blocking the invite. You can contact your email service provider to request that emails from info@signupgenius.com are delivered. The other option is to watch for the QR code and/or URL link and click on it. We will begin signups for Harvest Dinner in August. Please contact me if you have any questions. Cynthia Benner

Acknowledgments

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