



St. John's Lutheran Church

A congregation of The Lutheran Church – Missouri Synod

Eleventh Sunday After Pentecost

August 9, 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.

Take Heart, Christ Is Near

Today we hear of Jesus coming to His disciples on the stormy sea, reminding us that no wind or wave is greater than His power and presence. When doubts and fear threaten to overwhelm us, Christ speaks His words of comfort: "Take heart; it is I. Do not be afraid." As we gather in worship today, may the Lord strengthen our faith, calm our anxious hearts, and fix our eyes on Jesus, who is always with us and faithful to carry us safely through every storm.

♪ "Mighty Fortress"

Words and Music by Aaron Shust and Paul Baloche

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He won't abandon, He won't deceive,
He won't desert us, He won't ever leave.
He'll never forsake us, He won't ever run,
He'll never reject us, the Faithful One.
Your love will remain. Your love will remain.

Chorus: A Mighty Fortress is our God!
A Tow'r of Strength never failing.
The name of Jesus, true and strong;
No other pow'r could ever save us.
You are good, You are good, Mighty Fortress.
Mighty Fortress.

You won't abandon, You won't deceive,
You won't desert us, You won't ever leave.
You'll never forsake us, You won't ever run,
You'll never reject us, the Faithful One.
Your love will remain. Your love will remain. *(Chorus)*

Yesterday and today and forever, Your love will remain.
Nothing has the pow'r to sever Your love.
You are good, You are good, and Your mercy endures.
You are good, You are good.

A Mighty Fortress is our God!
A Tow'r of Strength never failing.
The name of Jesus, true and strong;
No other pow'r could ever save us. *(Repeat section)*

You are good, You are good, and Your mercy endures!
You are good, You are good, Mighty Fortress. *(Repeat section)*

You won't abandon, You won't deceive,
You won't desert us, You won't ever leave.

Invocation

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

C Amen.

Confession and Absolution

P Lord, we confess.

C **Merciful Lord, we confess that we are often overcome by fear and doubt. We often become overwhelmed by the storms of life. Instead of trusting in Your presence and promises, we rely on our own strength and become anxious and discouraged. We have failed to love You with our whole heart and to serve our neighbors with confidence and compassion. Forgive us for the sake of Jesus Christ, who reaches out His hand to save us. Strengthen our faith, calm our fears, and lead us to trust You more fully each day.**

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 T Son and of the Holy Spirit. May the Lord Jesus, who stills the storm and upholds His people with His mighty hand, strengthen your faith, grant you His peace, and keep you steadfast in His grace until the day of everlasting life.

C Amen.

Introit

Ps. 34:4-8; antiphon: Ps. 34:1

I will bless the LORD at all times;
his praise shall continually be in my mouth.

**I sought the LORD, and he answered me
and delivered me from all my fears.**

Those who look to him are radiant,
and their faces shall never be ashamed.

**This poor man cried, and the LORD heard him
and saved him out of all his troubles.**

The angel of the LORD encamps around those who fear him,
and delivers them.

Oh, taste and see that the LORD is good!

Blessèd is the man who takes refuge in him!

**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.**

I will bless the LORD at all times;
his praise shall continually be in my mouth.

Collect of the Day

P Let us pray:

Almighty and most merciful God, preserve us from all harm and danger that we, being ready in both body and soul, may cheerfully accomplish what You want done; 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

Job 38:4-18

“Where were you when I laid the foundation of the earth? Tell me, if you have understanding. Who determined its measurements—surely you know! Or who stretched the line upon it? On what were its bases sunk, or who laid its cornerstone, when the morning stars sang together and all the sons of God shouted for joy? “Or who shut in the sea with doors when it burst out from the womb, when I made clouds its garment and thick darkness its swaddling band, and prescribed limits for it and set bars and doors, and said, ‘Thus far shall you come, and no farther, and here shall your proud waves be stayed’?”

“Have you commanded the morning since your days began, and caused the dawn to know its place, that it might take hold of the skirts of the earth, and the wicked be shaken out of it? It is changed like clay under the seal, and its features stand out like a garment. From the wicked their light is withheld, and their uplifted arm is broken. “Have you entered into the springs of the sea, or walked in the recesses of the deep? Have the gates of death been revealed to you, or have you seen the gates of deep darkness? Have you comprehended the expanse of the earth? Declare, if you know all this.

P This is the Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

Epistle

Romans 10:5-17

For Moses writes about the righteousness that is based on the law, that the person who does the commandments shall live by them. But the righteousness based on faith says, “Do not say in your heart, ‘Who will ascend into heaven?’” (that is, to bring Christ down) or “‘Who will descend into the abyss?’” (that is, to bring Christ up from the dead). But what does it say? “The word is near you, in your mouth and in your heart” (that is, the word of faith that we proclaim); because, if you confess with your mouth that Jesus is Lord and believe in your heart that God raised him from the dead, you will be saved. For with the heart one believes and is justified, and with the mouth one confesses and is saved. For the Scripture says, “Everyone who believes in him will not be put to shame.” For there is no

distinction between Jew and Greek; the same Lord is Lord of all, bestowing his riches on all who call on him. For “everyone who calls on the name of the Lord will be saved.”

But how are they to call on him in whom they have not believed? And how are they to believe in him of whom they have never heard? And how are they to hear without someone preaching? And how are they to preach unless they are sent? As it is written, “How beautiful are the feet of those who preach the good news!” But they have not all obeyed the gospel. For Isaiah says, “Lord, who has believed what he has heard from us?” So faith comes from hearing, and hearing through the word of Christ.

P This is the Word of the Lord.

C **Thanks be to God.**

Holy Gospel

Matthew 14:22-33

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

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

Immediately [Jesus] made the disciples get into the boat and go before him to the other side, while he dismissed the crowds.

And after he had dismissed the crowds, he went up on the mountain by himself to pray. When evening came, he was there alone, but the boat by this time was a long way from the land, beaten by the waves, for the wind was against them. And in the fourth watch of the night he came to them, walking on the sea. But when the disciples saw him walking on the sea, they were terrified, and said, “It is a ghost!” and they cried out in fear. But immediately Jesus spoke to them, saying, “Take heart; it is I. Do not be afraid.”

And Peter answered him, “Lord, if it is you, command me to come to you on the water.” He said, “Come.” So Peter got out of the boat and walked on the water and came to Jesus. But when he saw the wind, he was afraid, and beginning to sink he cried out, “Lord, save me.” Jesus immediately reached out his hand and took hold of him, saying to him, “O you of little faith, why did you doubt?” And when they got into the boat, the wind ceased. And those in the boat worshiped him, saying, “Truly you are the Son of God.”

P This is the Gospel of the Lord.

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

Apostles’ Creed Apostles’ Creed

I believe in God, the Father Almighty,
maker of heaven and earth.

And in Jesus Christ, His 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 into hell.
The third day He rose again from the dead.
He ascended into heaven
and sits at the right hand of God the Father Almighty.
From thence He will come to judge the living and the dead.

I believe in the Holy Spirit,
the holy Christian Church,
the communion of saints,
the forgiveness of sins,
the resurrection of the body,
and the life everlasting. Amen.

Children's Message Anna Kruger Director of Family Life

“Yet Not I But Through Christ in Me”

Words and Music by Jonny Robinson, Rich Thompson and Michael Farren
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What gift of grace is Jesus, my redeemer.
There is no more for heaven now to give.
He is my joy, my righteousness and freedom,
My steadfast love, my deep and boundless peace.
To this I hold: my hope is only Jesus.
For my life is wholly bound to his.
Oh, how strange and divine, I can sing: all is mine!
Yet not I, but through Christ in me.

The night is dark, but I am not forsaken,
For by my side the Savior, he will stay.
I labor on in weakness and rejoicing,
For in my need, his power is displayed.
To this I hold: my Shepherd will defend me.
Through the deepest valley he will lead.
Oh, the night has been won, and I shall overcome!
Yet not I, but through Christ in me.

No fate I dread, I know I am forgiven,
The future sure, the price, it has been paid.
For Jesus bled and suffered for my pardon,
And he was raised to overthrow the grave.
To this I hold: my sin has been defeated.

Jesus now, and ever, is my plea.
Oh, the chains are released, I can sing: I am free!
Yet not I, but through Christ in me.

With every breath I long to follow Jesus,
For he has said that he will bring me home.
And day by day I know he will renew me
Until I stand with joy before the throne.
To this I hold: my hope is only Jesus.
All the glory evermore to him.
When the race is complete, still my lips shall repeat:
Yet not I, but through Christ in me.

When the race is complete, still my lips shall repeat:
Yet not I, but through Christ in me.
Yet not I, but through Christ in me.

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.**

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.

“Jesus Saves”

Words and Music by Tim Hughes and Nick Herbert
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Hope is here. Shout the news to everyone,
It's a new day, peace has come: Jesus saves.
Mercy triumphs at the cross, love has come to rescue us:
Jesus saves.

Hope is here, what a joyful noise we'll make,
As we join in heaven's song
To let all the world know that Jesus saves.
Raise a shout to let all the world know that Jesus saves.

Free at last. Every debt has been repaid,
Broken hearts can be remade: Jesus saves.
Sing above the storms of life, Sing it through the darkest night.
Jesus saves.

Free at last. What a joyful noise we'll make
As we join in heaven's song
To let all the world know that Jesus saves.
Raise a shout to let all the world know that Jesus saves.

You save, You heal, restore, reveal
Your Father's heart to us.
You rose to raise us from the grave;
Your Spirit lives in us.
Sing it out, to let all the world know that Jesus saves.
Raise a shout to let all the world know that Jesus saves.

Sing it out, to let all the world know that Jesus saves.
Raise a shout to let all the world know that Jesus saves.

Announcements

Blessing and Dismissal

P May the peace of Christ quiet every fear, strengthen your faith, and
keep your eyes fixed on Him in every season of life.

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

PTS

The PTS team is collecting donations of gently used SJL spirit wear. A collection bin will be located inside the church office for easy drop off from Aug 5th to Aug 19th. All attire donated will be available FREE of charge to school families at the Spirit Swap table during the Welcome Back to School Night August 20th from 10-2 and 5-7. Please consider donating any unwanted spirit wear so current students can display their SJL pride!

Women of St. John's

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

***Altar flowers are given in celebration of
Beth and Harry Smith's 39th wedding anniversary!***