



St. John's Lutheran Church

A congregation of The Lutheran Church – Missouri Synod

LWML Sunday
Twentieth Sunday after Pentecost
October 11, 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.

Clothed for the Wedding Feast

Jesus uses the picture of a wedding feast to remind us of the gracious invitation God extends to all through His Son, Jesus Christ. We do not enter the kingdom because of our own worthiness, but because God freely provides the righteousness we need in Christ. As we gather in worship today, may we rejoice in His gracious invitation, come clothed in the righteousness of Christ, and live with thankful hearts as people welcomed into the joy of God's kingdom.

♪ “Come People of the Risen King”

Words and Music by Keith Getty, Kristyn Getty and Stuart Townend
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Come, people of the Risen King,
Who delight to bring Him praise;
Come all, and tune your hearts to sing
To the Morning Star of grace.
From the shifting shadows of the earth,
We will lift our eyes to Him,
Where steady arms of mercy reach,
To gather children in.

Chorus: Rejoice...rejoice! Let every tongue rejoice!
One heart...one voice; O Church of Christ, rejoice!
Come, those whose joy is morning sun,
And those weeping through the night;
Come, those who tell of battles won,
And those struggling in the fight.
For His perfect love will never change,
And His mercies never cease,
But follow us through all our days,
With the certain hope of peace. (*Chorus*)

Come, young and old from every land,
Men and women of the faith;
Come those with full or empty hands-
Find the riches of His grace.
Over all the world, His people sing-
Shore to shore we hear them call
The truth that cries through every age,
“Our God is all in all.” (*Chorus 2x*)

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 often taken Your gracious invitation for granted. We have allowed the cares and pleasures of this world to distract us from the gifts You freely give through Christ. We have trusted in our own goodness rather than in the righteousness You provide, and we have failed to live with the gratitude, humility, and joy of those who have been welcomed into Your kingdom. Forgive us for the sake of Jesus Christ. Clothe us anew in His righteousness and renew our hearts to live faithfully in the grace You have given us.**
- P Almighty God, our heavenly Father, has graciously invited you to the marriage feast of His Son and has clothed you in the perfect righteousness of Jesus Christ. For His sake, He forgives you all 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.
- C Amen.**

Introit

Is. 61:10; antiphon: Ps. 146:2

I will praise the LORD as long as I live;

I will sing praises to my God while I have my being.

I will greatly rejoice in the LORD;

my soul shall exult in my God,

for he has clothed me with the garments of salvation;

he has covered me with the robe of righteousness,

as a bridegroom decks himself like a priest with a beautiful headdress,

and as a bride adorns herself with her jewels.

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 praise the LORD as long as I live;

I will sing praises to my God while I have my being.

Collect of the Day

P Let us pray:

Almighty God, You invite us to trust in You for our salvation. Deal with us not in the severity of Your judgment but by the greatness of Your mercy; 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 25:6-9

On this mountain the LORD of hosts will make for all peoples a feast of rich food, a feast of well-aged wine, of rich food full of marrow, of aged wine well refined. And he will swallow up on this mountain the covering that is cast over all peoples, the veil that is spread over all nations. He will swallow up death forever; and the Lord GOD will wipe away tears from all faces, and the reproach of his people he will take away from all the earth, for the LORD has spoken. It will be said on that day, “Behold, this is our God; we have waited for him, that he might save us. This is the LORD; we have waited for him; let us be glad and rejoice in his salvation.”

P This is the Word of the Lord.

C **Thanks be to God.**

Epistle

Philippians 4:4-13

Rejoice in the Lord always; again I will say, Rejoice. Let your reasonableness be known to everyone. The Lord is at hand; do not be anxious about anything, but in everything by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be made known to God. And the peace of God, which surpasses all understanding, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus.

Finally, brothers, whatever is true, whatever is honorable, whatever is just, whatever is pure, whatever is lovely, whatever is commendable, if there is any excellence, if there is anything worthy of praise, think about these things. What you have learned and received and heard and seen in me—practice these things, and the God of peace will be with you.

I rejoiced in the Lord greatly that now at length you have revived your concern for me. You were indeed concerned for me, but you had no opportunity. Not that I am speaking of being in need, for I have learned in whatever situation I am to be content. I know how to be brought low, and I know how to abound. In any and every circumstance, I have learned the secret of facing plenty and hunger, abundance and need. I can do all things through him who strengthens me.

P This is the Word of the Lord.

C **Thanks be to God.**

Holy Gospel

Matthew 22:1-14

P The Holy Gospel according to St. Matthew, the twenty-second chapter.

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

Again Jesus spoke to them in parables, saying, “The kingdom of heaven may be compared to a king who gave a wedding feast for his son, and sent

his servants to call those who were invited to the wedding feast, but they would not come. Again he sent other servants, saying, 'Tell those who are invited, See, I have prepared my dinner, my oxen and my fat calves have been slaughtered, and everything is ready. Come to the wedding feast.' But they paid no attention and went off, one to his farm, another to his business, while the rest seized his servants, treated them shamefully, and killed them. The king was angry, and he sent his troops and destroyed those murderers and burned their city. Then he said to his servants, 'The wedding feast is ready, but those invited were not worthy. Go therefore to the main roads and invite to the wedding feast as many as you find.' And those servants went out into the roads and gathered all whom they found, both bad and good. So the wedding hall was filled with guests.

"But when the king came in to look at the guests, he saw there a man who had no wedding garment. And he said to him, 'Friend, how did you get in here without a wedding garment?' And he was speechless. Then the king said to the attendants, 'Bind him hand and foot and cast him into the outer darkness. In that place there will be weeping and gnashing of teeth.' For many are called, but few are chosen."

P This is the Gospel of the Lord.

C Praise to You, O Christ.

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 T everlasting. Amen.**

Grades 5-8 Choir

“For Love Shall Be Our Song”

Douglas E. Wagner

Children’s Message

Stephanie Davis

“Praise to the Lord (Joyful, Joyful)”

Words and Music by Adrian Disch and Shane Barnard

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Praise to the Lord, the Almighty, the King of creation.
O, my soul, praise Him, for He is your health and salvation.
Come, all who hear, now to His temple draw near.
Joining in glad adoration.

Praise to the Lord, above all things so wondrously reigning.
Shelt’ring you under His wings and so gently sustaining.
Have you not seen all that is needful has been
Sent by His gracious ordaining.

Praise to the Lord, who will prosper your work and defend you.
Surely His goodness and mercy shall daily attend you.
Ponder anew what the Almighty can do.
If, with His love, He befriends you.

Joyful, joyful, we adore Thee, God of glory, Lord of love.
Hearts unfold like flowers before Thee, opening to the sun above.

Joyful, joyful, we adore Thee, God of glory, Lord of love.
Hearts unfold like flowers before Thee, opening to the sun above.

Praise to the Lord. O, let all that is in me adore Him.
All that hath life and breath, come now, with praises before Him.
Let the amen sound from His people again,
Gladly forever adore Him.

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.

“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 Christ's righteousness cover you, His grace sustain you, and His Spirit prepare you to live with joy as a welcomed and beloved child of God.

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

4th-6th Grade Autumn Party Join us TODAY from 3:00-4:30pm for a 4th - 6th Autumn Party in the St. John's gym! Come for a time of games and cider and donuts. These evenings are open to students in 4th through 6th grade for the 2026–2027 school year. Come enjoy a night of games, fun, and fellowship. Scan the QR code below to register.



Come and Join the Choir! Have you ever wanted to sing in the choir? Try it out for TWO EASY REHEARSALS on Thursday evenings, October 22nd and 29th at 7:00pm. We will be singing on Reformation Sunday, October 25th and All Saints' Day, November 1st.

Faith & Blue Hope Luncheon First Baptist Church Midland, in coordination with the Midland Police Department, will host a Faith & Blue Hope Luncheon on Sunday, TODAY, from 12:30–3:00 p.m. at First Baptist Church, 915 E. Sugnet Rd., Midland. This luncheon is an opportunity to come together, build stronger community relationships, and make a difference for those in need. Spaghetti and breadsticks will be served, and donations are encouraged. 100% of the funds raised will be donated to The Bridge Food Center. Everyone is welcome to attend!

Young Adult Meet Ups Monthly meet ups for mid-20s to mid-30s young adults continue this fall! Join us at City Forest on Saturday, October 17 for a hike and cider/donut tailgate and at Nord Social on Sunday, November 8 for a Detroit Lions watch party. Fliers are available in the Lounge with full details. Please consider those in your life who might be blessed by these events and share an invite with them!

Fall Fest Mark your calendars, invite your friends and neighbors, and plan to join us for Fall Fest happening 2:00-4:00pm on Sunday, October 25! The event will feature music, trunk-or-treating, games, face painting, concessions, and more. Candy donations are appreciated and can be dropped off to the Church Office anytime. Interested in volunteering? Sign up in the Lounge!

Harvest Dinner Tickets are being sold after each service (Saturday & 10:45 in the church office, 8am in the lounge). Please make checks payable to **Women of St. John's**. Sign up on the tables in the Lounge or on Sign Up Genius: <https://tinyurl.com/5dchbc99>. If you have any questions contact Joyce Battjes (989.430.7166), Cynthia Benner (989.600.9463), or Joy Miller (989.600.5437).

October is **Pastor/Staff Appreciation month**. Please take a moment to thank our wonderful pastors/staff.

Beware of Spam Emails Please be alert for suspicious or spam emails claiming to be from the church, pastor, staff, or other church members. Do not click on unfamiliar links, open unexpected attachments, or send money or gift cards in response to an email request. When in doubt, please contact the church office directly to verify the message before responding.

*Altar flowers are given by Gary and Cynthia Benner
in celebration of their 39th Wedding Anniversary.*

Acknowledgments

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St. John's Lutheran Church & School
Website QRC:



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Church Secretary:

Kate, Carissa, & Kathy (ext. 1203)

Senior Pastor:

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Dir. of Family Life Ministry:

Anna Kruger (ext. 1204)

Dir. of Young Families Ministry:

Stephanie Davis (ext. 1204)

School Secretary:

Sarah Graham (ext. 1301)

School Principal:

Brad Massey (ext. 1300)

Business Executive:

Kris Zastrow

Facilities Manager:

Ian McDonald

Dir. of Worship Music:

Karen Kempin (ext. 1205)

Our Mission Statement

"We are here to share the good news of salvation and make disciples of Jesus Christ, in accordance with the Scriptures (Matt. 28:18-20) and with the help of the Holy Spirit. This mission begins with our St. John's family and extends to the Midland Community and the world."