



May 19, 2024
Day of Pentecost, Year B
9:00 a.m.

St. John Ev. Lutheran Church, ELCA

Reverend Maggie Westaby
5304 N 44th Ave
Wausau, Wisconsin 54401
Web Address: stjohnwausau.org
E-mail: pastor.maggie.westaby@gmail.com
Email: stjohnwausau@msn.com

Office: (715) 675-6950

WELCOME

CALL TO WORSHIP

Blessed be the Holy Trinity, † one God, by whose hand we are given new birth, by whose speaking we are given new life. **Amen.**

THANKSGIVING FOR BAPTISM

United to Christ in the waters of baptism,
saturated in the Spirit's renewing energy,
immersed in God's grace and forgiveness, let us give thanks.

Creator God, we give thanks for Your Living Water.
Water brought to life by the Holy Spirit, who in the beginning,
hovered over the face of the deep.

We give thanks for the parting of the Red Sea,
freeing your people, allowing them to embark on a journey, guided by You.

We give thanks for the river Jordan,
where your people were welcomed into the promised land,
flowing with milk and honey.

And again, for the river Jordan, where Christ was baptized.

We give thanks for Your creation,
for our planet earth, connected together in intricate ways.

For water that floats in the sky,
where clouds embrace wind, sunlight, and the pull of gravity.

We give thanks for water that saturates all the earth,
down to intricate places like the midnight zone of the ocean,
where bioluminescent life thrives in the darkness.

We give thanks for the water that fills our bodies,
may it remind us of our connection together, of our connection to You,
and our connection to all of creation.

May we flow, like water, being present with one another today.

May we join together like water, as we welcome new members.

May we observe space, like water, holding space for one another.

And may we go deep, like water, allowing the Spirit to hover within. Amen.

God of Tempest, God of Whirlwind

1 God of tem - pest, God of whirl-wind, as on Pen - te -
 2 God of blaz - ing, God of burn - ing, all that blocks your
 3 God of earth - quake, God of thun - der, shake us loose from
 4 God of pas - sion, God un - sleep - ing, stir in us love's

cost de - scend! Drive us out from shel - tered com - fort;
 pur - pose, purge! Through your church, Christ's liv - ing Bod - y,
 leth - ar - gy! Break the chains of sin a - sun - der,
 rest - less - ness! Where the peo - ple cry in an - guish,

past these walls your peo - ple send! Sweep us in - to cost - ly ser - vice,
 let your flam - ing Spir - it surge! Where de - ceit con - ceals in - jus - tice,
 for earth's heal - ing set us free! Crum - ble walls that still di - vide us;
 may we share your heart's dis - tress. Rouse us from con - tent with e - vil;

there with Christ to bear the cross, there with Christ to bear the cross!
 kin - dle us to speak your truth, kin - dle us to speak your truth!
 make us one in Christ our Lord, make us one in Christ our Lord!
 claim us for your king - dom's work, claim us for your king - dom's work!

Text: Herman G. Stuempfle Jr., b. 1923
 Music: CWM RHONDDA, John Hughes, 1873-1932
 Text © 2000 GIA Publications, Inc., 7404 S. Mason Ave., Chicago, IL 60638, www.giamusic.com, 900.442.3358.
 All rights reserved. Used by permission.

Duplication in any form prohibited without permission or valid license from copyright administrator.

PRAYER OF THE DAY

Holy God,

Like a rushing wind your Spirit moved upon the first disciples on the day of Pentecost, and like a purifying fire your Spirit seared their hearts and minds with the message of salvation. Send your Spirit upon your church in this time and place, stir up our courage, that we may proclaim to the world your love and grace, in Jesus Christ we pray.

Amen.

READING: Ezekiel 37:1-14

¹The hand of the LORD came upon me, and he brought me out by the spirit of the LORD and set me down in the middle of a valley; it was full of bones. ²He led me all around them; there were very many lying in the valley, and they were very dry. ³He said to me, “Mortal, can these bones live?” I answered, “O Lord GOD, you know.” ⁴Then he said to me, “Prophecy to these bones, and say to them: O dry bones, hear the word of the LORD. ⁵Thus says the Lord GOD to these bones: I will cause breath to enter you, and you shall live. ⁶I will lay sinews on you, and will cause flesh to come upon you, and cover you with skin, and put breath in you, and you shall live; and you shall know that I am the LORD.”

⁷So I prophesied as I had been commanded; and as I prophesied, suddenly there was a noise, a rattling, and the bones came together, bone to its bone. ⁸I looked, and there were sinews on them, and flesh had come upon them, and skin had covered them; but there was no breath in them. ⁹Then he said to me, “Prophecy to the breath, prophecy, mortal, and say to the breath: Thus says the Lord GOD: Come from the four winds, O breath, and breathe upon these slain, that they may live.” ¹⁰I prophesied as he commanded me, and the breath came into them, and they lived, and stood on their feet, a vast multitude.

¹¹Then he said to me, “Mortal, these bones are the whole house of Israel. They say, ‘Our bones are dried up, and our hope is lost; we are cut off completely.’ ¹²Therefore prophecy, and say to them, Thus says the Lord GOD: I am going to open your graves, and bring you up from your graves, O my people; and I will bring you back to the land of Israel. ¹³And you shall know that I am the LORD, when I open your graves, and bring you up from your graves, O my people. ¹⁴I will put my spirit within you, and you shall live, and I will place you on your own soil; then you shall know that I, the LORD, have spoken and will act, says the LORD.”

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God

READING: Romans 8:22-27

²²We know that the whole creation has been groaning in labor pains until now; ²³and not only the creation, but we ourselves, who have the first fruits of the Spirit, groan inwardly while we wait for adoption, the redemption of our bodies. ²⁴For in hope we were saved. Now hope that is seen is not hope. For who hopes for what is seen? ²⁵But if we hope for what we do not see, we wait for it with patience.

²⁶Likewise the Spirit helps us in our weakness; for we do not know how to pray as we ought, but that very Spirit intercedes with sighs too deep for words. ²⁷And God, who searches the heart, knows what is the mind of the Spirit, because the Spirit intercedes for the saints according to the will of God. The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.



Al - le - lu - ia! Lord and Sav - ior: o - pen now your sav - ing word.



Let it burn like fire with - in us; speak un - til our hearts are stirred.



Al - le - lu - ia! Lord, we sing for the good news that you bring.

GOSPEL: John 15:26-27; 16:4b-15

Come, Holy Spirit, fill the hearts of your faithful, and kindle in us the fire of your love. The holy gospel according to John.

Glory to you, O Lord.

[Jesus said,] ²⁶“When the Advocate comes, whom I will send to you from the Father, the Spirit of truth who comes from the Father, he will testify on my behalf. ²⁷You also are to testify because you have been with me from the beginning.

^{16:4b}“I did not say these things to you from the beginning, because I was with you. ⁵But now I am going to him who sent me; yet none of you asks me, ‘Where are you going?’ ⁶But because I have said these things to you, sorrow has filled your hearts. ⁷Nevertheless I tell you the truth: it is to your advantage that I go away, for if I do not go away, the Advocate will not come to you; but if I go, I will send him to you. ⁸And when he comes, he will prove the world wrong about sin and righteousness and judgment: ⁹about sin, because they do not believe in me; ¹⁰about righteousness, because I am going to the Father and you will see me no longer; ¹¹about judgment, because the ruler of this world has been condemned.

¹²“I still have many things to say to you, but you cannot bear them now. ¹³When the Spirit of truth comes, he will guide you into all the truth; for he will not speak on his own, but will speak whatever he hears, and he will declare to you the things that are to come. ¹⁴He will glorify me, because he will take what is mine and declare it to you. ¹⁵All that the Father has is mine. For this reason I said that he will take what is mine and declare it to you.”

The Gospel of The Lord.

Praise to you, O Christ.

SERMON

Spirit of Gentleness

Refrain



Spir - it, Spir - it of gen - tle - ness, blow through the wil - der - ness



call - ing and free; Spir - it, Spir - it of rest - less - ness,



stir me from plac - id - ness, wind, wind on the sea.



1 You moved on the wa - ters, you called to the deep,
2 You swept through the des - ert, you stung with the sand,
3 You sang in a sta - ble, you cried from a hill,
4 You call from to - mor - row, you break an - cient schemes.



then you coaxed up the moun - tains from the val - leys of sleep;
and you goad - ed your peo - ple with a law and a land;
then you whis - pered in si - lence when the whole world was still;
From the bond - age of sor - row all the cap - tives dream dreams;



and o - ver the e - ons you called to each thing;
and when they were blind - ed with i - dols and lies,
and down in the cit - y you called once a - gain,
our wom - en see vi - sions, our men clear their eyes.



Refrain
"A - wake from your slum - bers and rise on your wings."
then you spoke through your proph - ets to o - pen their eyes,
when you blew through your peo - ple on the rush of the wind.
With . . . bold new de - ci - sions your peo - ple a - rise.

Text: James K. Mantley, b. 1940
Music: SPIRIT, James K. Mantley
Text and music © 1978 James K. Mantley, admin. Augsburg Fortress.

Duplication in any form prohibited without permission or valid license from copyright administrator.

WELCOMING NEW MEMBERS TO THE CONGREGATION

Dear friends, we give thanks for the gift of baptism, and for the following families... Who are one with us in the body of Christ, whom we welcome as new members into the life and ministry of this congregation.

As we welcome them let us confess our faith together. **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.**

In baptism, we are welcomed into the body of Christ and sent to share in the mission of God. We are called to live among God's faithful people, to hear the word of God and share in the Lord's supper, to proclaim the good news of God in Christ through word and deed, to serve all people, following the example of Jesus, and to strive for justice and peace in all the earth. Siblings in Christ, do you intend to continue in the covenant of your baptism among God's people in this place?

New Members: **I do, and I ask God to help and guide me.**

People of God, do you promise to support and pray for these new members in their life in Christ?

Congregation: **We do, and we ask God to help and guide us.**

Let us welcome these siblings in Christ to this community of faith.

Congregation: **We rejoice with you in the life of baptism. Together we will give thanks and praise to God and proclaim the good news to all the world.**

PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

Responding to "God of grace," with "**hear our prayer.**"

PEACE

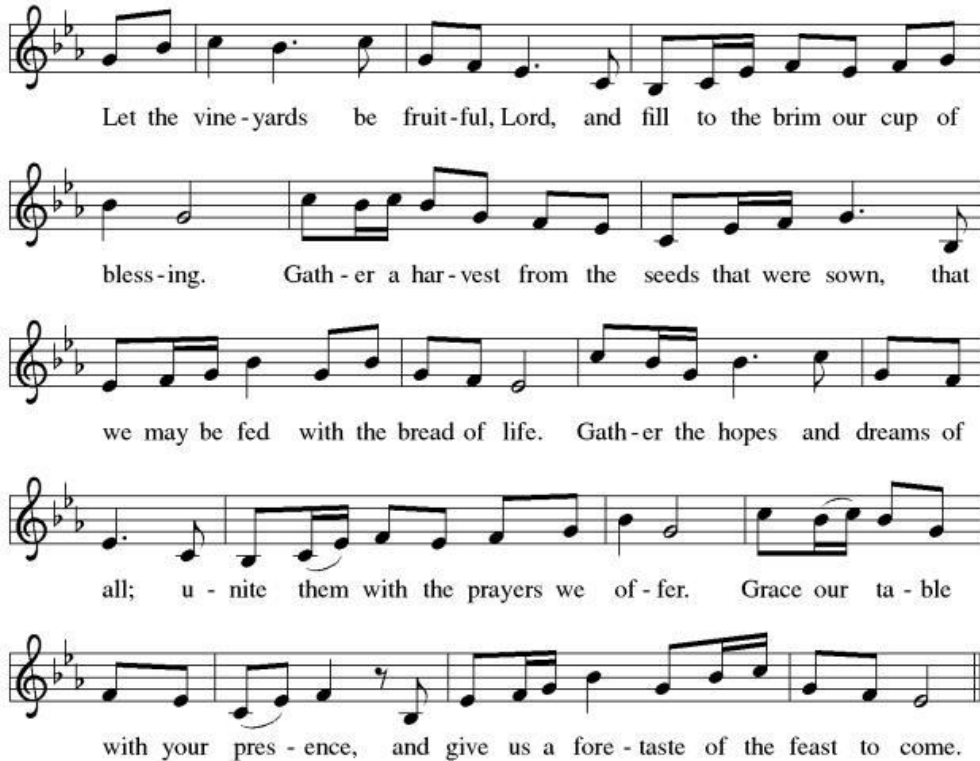
The peace of Christ be with you always. **And also with you.**

INVITATION TO THE OFFERING

The Holy Spirit was sent to increase our compassion and to make us glad to spread good news through our love. Let us give as the Spirit was given to us.

Let the Vineyards Be Fruitful

Offering Song



Let the vine-yards be fruit-ful, Lord, and fill to the brim our cup of
bless-ing. Gath-er a har-vest from the seeds that were sown, that
we may be fed with the bread of life. Gath-er the hopes and dreams of
all; u-nite them with the prayers we of-fer. Grace our ta-ble
with your pres-ence, and give us a fore-taste of the feast to come.

Text: John W. Arthur, 1922-1980

Music: Ronald A. Nelson, b. 1927

Text and music © 1978 *Lutheran Book of Worship*, admin. Augsburg Fortress.

Duplication in any form prohibited without permission or valid license from copyright administrator.

OFFERING PRAYER

Living God,

You call us to believe and bear fruit. May the gifts that we offer here be signs of your abiding love and form us to be your witnesses in the world. By your Spirit who breathes within us, strengthen our faith, use our gifts, and work in our lives. In Jesus we pray. **Amen.**

GREAT THANKSGIVING DIALOGUE

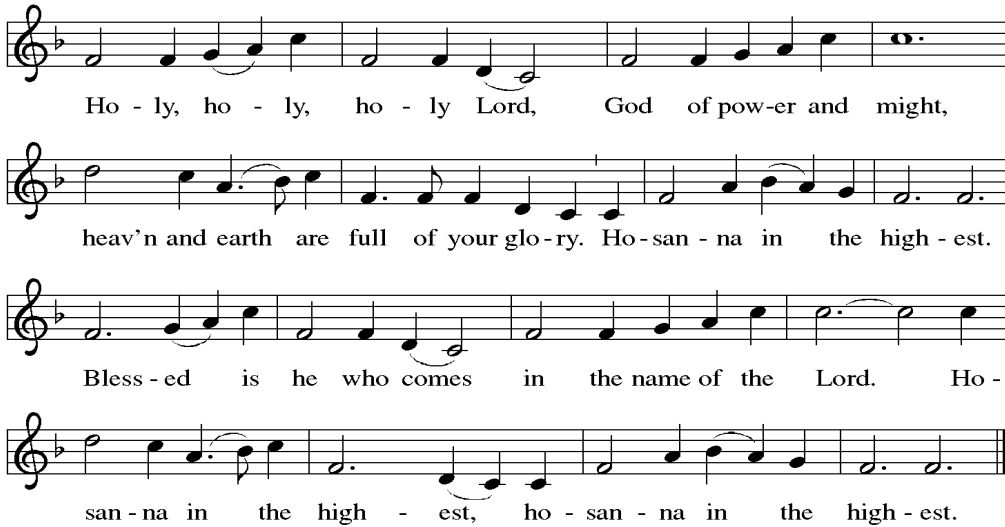
The Lord be with you. **And also with you.**

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.

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. Fulfilling the promise of the resurrection, you pour out the fire of your Spirit, uniting in one body people of every nation and tongue. And so, with Mary Magdalene and Peter and all the witnesses of the resurrection, with earth and sea and all their creatures, and with angels and archangels, cherubim and seraphim, we praise your name and join their unending hymn:



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

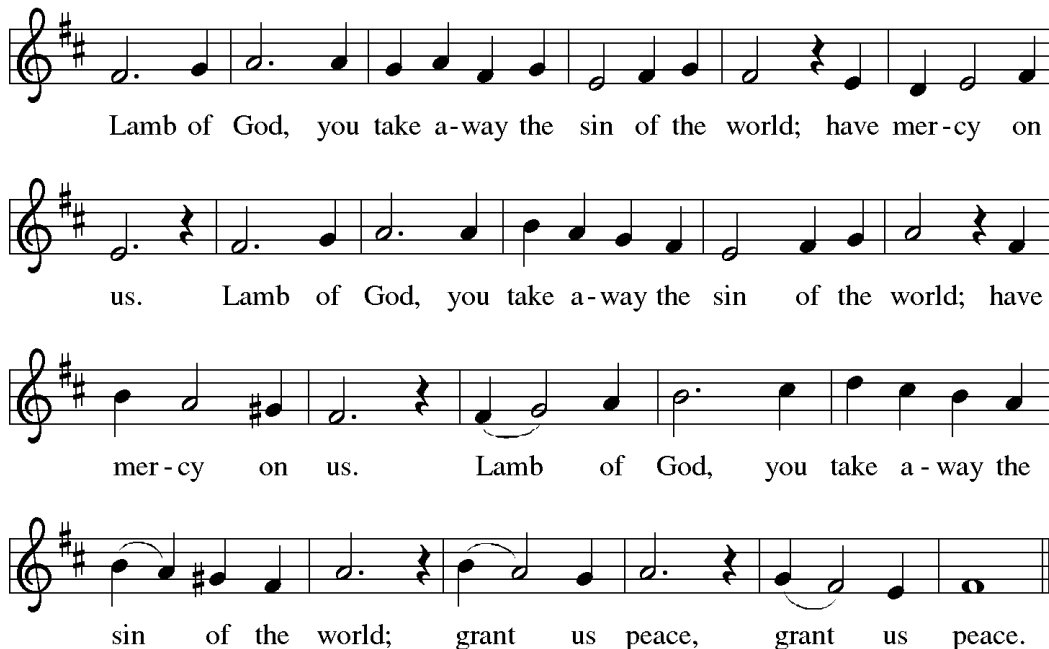
WORDS OF INSTITUTION

LORD'S PRAYER

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

We are here because Jesus has called us – strangers and friends, locals and visitors, believers and doubters, the certain and the curious. All are invited to Christ's table where, in bread and wine, he meets us, and through him we, who are different, are joined to each other. So come now to Christ's banquet. Amen.



Lamb of God, you take a-way the sin of the world; have mer-cy on
 us. Lamb of God, you take a-way the sin of the world; have
 mer-cy on us. Lamb of God, you take a-way the
 sin of the world; grant us peace, grant us peace.

Come, Thou Fount of Every Blessing

1 Come, thou Fount of ev - 'ry bless - ing, tune my heart to sing thy grace;
2 Here I raise my Eb - en - e - zer: "Hith - er by thy help I've come";
3 Oh, to grace how great a debt - or dai - ly I'm con - strained to be;

streams of mer - cy, nev - er ceas - ing, call for songs of loud - est praise,
and I hope, by thy good plea - sure, safe - ly to ar - rive at home.
let that grace now like a fet - ter bind my wan - d'ring heart to thee,

While the hope of end - less glo - ry fills my heart with joy and love,
Je - sus sought me when a strang - er, wan - d'ring from the fold of God;
Prone to wan - der, Lord, I feel it; prone to leave the God I love,

teach me ev - er to a - dore thee; may I still thy good - ness prove.
he, to res - cue me from dan - ger, in - ter - posed his pre - cious blood.
Here's my heart, oh, take and seal it; seal it for thy courts a - bove.

The musical score consists of four systems, each with a vocal line (treble clef) and a piano accompaniment line (bass clef). The key signature is one sharp (F#) and the time signature is common time (C). The lyrics are printed below the vocal lines.

Text: Robert Robinson, 1735-1790, alt.
Music: NETTLETON, J. Wyeth, *Repository of Sacred Music*, Part II, 1813

Joyful, Joyful We Adore Thee

1 Joy - ful, joy - ful we a - dore thee, God of glo - ry, Lord of love!
2 All thy works with joy sur - round thee, earth and heav'n re - flect thy rays,
3 Thou art giv - ing and for - giv - ing, ev - er bless - ing, ev - er blest,

Hearts un - fold like flow'rs be - fore thee, prais - ing thee, their sun a - bove.
stars and an - gels sing a - round thee, cen - ter of un - bro - ken praise.
well - spring of the joy of liv - ing, o - cean - depth of hap - py rest!

Melt the clouds of sin and sad - ness, drive the gloom of doubt a - way.
Field and for - est, vale and moun - tain, flow - 'ry mead - ow, flash - ing sea,
Thou our Fa - ther, Christ our broth - er, all who live in love are thine;

Giv - er of im - mor - tal glad - ness, fill us with the light of day.
chant - ing bird, and flow - ing foun - tain call us to re - joice in thee.
teach us how to love each oth - er, lift us to the joy di - vine!

Text: Henry van Dyke, 1852-1922
Music: HÝMN TO JOY, Ludwig van Beethoven, 1770-1827, adapt.

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

Jesus, Bread of life,

We have received from your table more than we could ever ask. As you have nourished us in this meal, now strengthen us to love the world with your own life. In your name we pray. **Amen.**

ANNOUNCEMENTS

BLESSING

May the Creator wake your flesh with life anew.

May Christ weave strength and courage into your bones.

May the Holy Spirit breathe energy into each day and every breath.

And may the Holy God † Triune breathe rejuvenation, peace, and love in your life, today and all days.

Amen

When Peace, like a River *It Is Well with My Soul*

1 When peace like a riv - er at - tend - eth my way, when
 2 Though Sa - tan should buf - fet, though tri - als should come, let
 3 He lives—oh, the bliss of this glo - ri - ous thought; my
 4 Lord, has - ten the day when our faith shall be sight, the

sor - rows like sea bil - lows roll, what - ev - er my lot, thou hast
 this blest as - sur - ance con - trol, that Christ hath re - gard - ed my
 sin, not in part, but the whole, is nailed to his cross and I
 clouds be rolled back as a scroll, the trum - pet shall sound and the

taught me to say, it is well, it is well with my soul.
 help - less es - tate, and hath shed his own blood for my soul.
 bear it no more. Praise the Lord, praise the Lord, O my soul!
 Lord shall de - scend; e - ven so it is well with my soul.

Refrain

It is well with my soul, it is well, it is well with my soul.
 It is well with my soul,

Text: Horatio G. Spafford, 1826–1888
 Music: VILLE DU HAVRE, Philip P. Bliss, 1838–1876

DISMISSAL

Alleluia! Go in peace. Rejoice and be glad. **Thanks be to God. Alleluia!**

From sundaysandseasons.com. Copyright © 2024 Augsburg Fortress. All rights reserved.

Welcome to all! Welcome to Pentecost worship! Today we celebrate the gift of the Holy Spirit and the birth of the church. May we be open to the Spirit's dynamic leading.

When I don't know how to pray or what to pray for, Holy Spirit, help me in my weakness; intercede with your deep, wordless sighs (see Romans 8:26).

Please remember to silence pagers and cell phones during services.

To those who are visiting: Welcome to St. John and thank you for joining us! You are welcome to sign our registry in the narthex.

Reminder! If you are in need of Pastoral care, please contact St. John (715) 675-6950

Holy Communion is celebrated every Sunday. All are welcome to Christ's Table.

Food Basket. Each week you are invited to bring non-perishable grocery items to be given to a local food pantry. Place your gift in the *Shopping Cart* next to the main entrance. **Reminder, food pantries cannot accept expired donations.**

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Monday, June 10 at 6:30 p.m. The Book Club will discuss, *The Mighty Queens of Freeville: A Mother, a Daughter, and the Town That Raised Them* by Amy Dickinson.

Tuesday, June 18 at 6:30 p.m. The Adult Study will discuss pages 26—44 from *A is for Alabaster: 52 Reflections on the Stories of Scripture* by Anna Carter Florence.

Vacation Bible School Registration is open! VBS will be Sunday, June 23 – Thursday June, 27. Register on our website <https://stjohnwausau.org/education/vbs/>

St. John Choir will be getting back together, please watch for future dates to meet. Thank you, Amanda Grueneberg, for leading.

Kwik Trip Scrip Cards Sign Up in the Narthex. Help support St. John when buying groceries at Kwik Trip!

St. John Quilting Wishlist. Left over fabric or never used fabric, light weight denim, cotton or flannel sheets, pillow cases, cotton curtains (unlined), cotton shower curtains. If you are interested, come join us! You can also sew a quilt top from home. Size needed is 60 x 80. They do not need to be fancy. Thank you!

Live Streaming and Photography Notice. When you enter a St. John Lutheran Church service or event, you will be entering an area where photography, video and audio recording or live streaming may occur. If you prefer not to be recognized on camera, the back row inside the church is not within viewing distance of a camera and communion will typically be only on a wide shot where it may be difficult to recognize congregants. Parents, please note our children's sermons are being recorded and live streamed. If you do not want your child to be recognized on camera, please refrain from having them participate.

Coming This Week @ St. John May 19– May 26

Pastor Maggie will be on Vacation May 20 – May 27. Pastor Karoline from St. Stephen will be available for Pastoral Care. Please call St. John to get Pastor Karoline's number.

Today

9:00 a.m. Worship

10:15 a.m. BINGO & Ice Cream Social!

May 20

12:00 p.m. Newsletter Articles Due

May 21

8:30 a.m. Quilting

May 26

9:00 a.m. Worship

Pastor Maggie will be on Vacation May 20 – May 27. Pastor Karoline from St. Stephen will be available for Pastoral Care. Please call St. John to get Pastor Karoline's number.