

September 15, 2024
Seventeenth Sunday after 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, who forgives all our sin, whose mercy endures forever.
Amen.

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

Trusting in God's grace, let us confess our sins before God and one another.

Loving God,

You lived for us, but we have not lived for you. You have forgiven us, but we have not forgiven others. You have loved us, but we have not loved ourselves nor one another. Forgive us; and teach us how to forgive. Help us to be charitable in our regard for others, and guide us to live in peace with our neighbors. In Christ we pray. Amen.

Siblings in Christ, God's love stretches beyond all understanding. God's compassion is beyond compare. In Christ, God is always making a new way. In Jesus † Christ, you are already and always forgiven.

Amen.

On What Has Now Been Sown

1 On what has now been sown your bless-ing Lord, be - stow; the
2 To you our wants are known, from you are all our pow'rs; ac -
3 Oh, grant that each of us, now met be - fore you here, may

pow'r is yours a - lone to make it sprout and grow. O Lord, in
cept what is your own and par-don what is ours. Our prais - es,
meet to - geth - er thus when you and yours ap - pear, and fol - low

grace the har - vest raise, and yours a - lone shall be the praise!
Lord, and prayers re - ceive and to your word a bless - ing give.
you to heav'n, our home. E'en so, A - men! Lord Je - sus, come!

Text: John Newton, 1725-1807, alt.
Music: DARWALL'S 148TH, John Darwall, 1731-1789

PRAYER OF THE DAY

God of love,

You teach us a life journey that calls us to deny what is unhealthy and unloving. Lead us in that pathway. Awaken us to the ever-new abundance that is ours through your Word, in the name of Christ Jesus, our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, now and forever.

Amen.

READING: Isaiah 50:4-9a

⁴The Lord God has given me the tongue of a teacher, that I may know how to sustain the weary with a word. Morning by morning he wakens—wakens my ear to listen as those who are taught. ⁵The Lord God has opened my ear, and I was not rebellious, I did not turn backward. ⁶I gave my back to those who struck me, and my cheeks to those who pulled out the beard; I did not hide my face from insult and spitting. ⁷The Lord God helps me; therefore I have not been disgraced; therefore I have set my face like flint, and I know that I shall not be put to shame; ⁸he who vindicates me is near. Who will contend with me? Let us stand up together. Who are my adversaries? Let them confront me. ^{9a}It is the Lord God who helps me; who will declare me guilty?

Word of God. Word of Life.

Thanks be to God.

READING: Psalm 116:1-9

I love the LORD, who has heard my voice, and listened to my supplication,

for the LORD has given ear to me whenever I called.

The cords of death entangled me; the anguish of the grave came upon me; I came to grief and sorrow.

Then I called upon the name of the LORD: “O LORD, I pray you, save my life.”

Gracious is the LORD and righteous; our God is full of compassion.

The LORD watches over the innocent; I was brought low, and God saved me.

Turn again to your rest, O my soul for the LORD has dealt well with you.

For you have rescued my life from death, my eyes from tears, and my feet from stumbling;

I will walk in the presence of the LORD in the land of the living.

Word of God. Word of Life.

Thanks be to God

READING: James 3:1-12

¹Not many of you should become teachers, my brothers and sisters, for you know that we who teach will be judged with greater strictness. ²For all of us make many mistakes. Anyone who makes no mistakes in speaking is perfect, able to keep the whole body in check with a bridle. ³If we put bits into the mouths of horses to make them obey us, we guide their whole bodies. ⁴Or look at ships: though they are so large that it takes strong winds to drive them, yet they are guided by a very small rudder wherever the will of the pilot directs. ⁵So also the tongue is a small member, yet it boasts of great exploits.

How great a forest is set ablaze by a small fire! ⁶And the tongue is a fire. The tongue is placed among our members as a world of iniquity; it stains the whole body, sets on fire the cycle of nature, and is itself set on fire by hell. ⁷For every species of beast and bird, of reptile and sea creature, can be tamed and has been tamed by the human species, ⁸but no one can tame the tongue—a restless evil, full of deadly poison. ⁹With it we bless the Lord and Father, and with it we curse those who are made in the likeness of God. ¹⁰From the same mouth come blessing and cursing. My brothers and sisters, this ought not to be so. ¹¹Does a spring pour forth from the same opening both fresh and brackish water? ¹²Can a fig tree, my brothers and sisters, yield olives, or a grapevine figs? No more can salt water yield fresh. Word of God. Word of Life.

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: Mark 8:27-38

The holy gospel according to Mark

Glory to you, O Lord.

²⁷Jesus went on with his disciples to the villages of Caesarea Philippi; and on the way he asked his disciples, “Who do people say that I am?” ²⁸And they answered him, “John the Baptist; and others, Elijah; and still others, one of the prophets.” ²⁹He asked them, “But who do you say that I am?” Peter answered him, “You are the Messiah.” ³⁰And he sternly ordered them not to tell anyone about him.

³¹Then he began to teach them that the Son of Man must undergo great suffering, and be rejected by the elders, the chief priests, and the scribes, and be killed, and after three days rise again. ³²He said all this quite openly. And Peter took him aside and began to rebuke him. ³³But turning and looking at his disciples, he rebuked Peter and said, “Get behind me, Satan! For you are setting your mind not on divine things but on human things.”

³⁴He called the crowd with his disciples, and said to them, “If any want to become my followers, let them deny themselves and take up their cross and follow me. ³⁵For those who want to save their life will lose it, and those who lose their life for my sake, and for the sake of the gospel, will save it. ³⁶For what will it profit them to gain the whole world and forfeit their life? ³⁷Indeed, what can they give in return for their life? ³⁸Those who are ashamed of me and of my words in this adulterous and sinful generation, of them the Son of Man will also be ashamed when he comes in the glory of his Father with the holy angels.”

The Gospel of The Lord.

Praise to you, O Christ.

SERMON

Oh, for a Thousand Tongues to Sing

1 Oh, for a thou - sand tongues to sing my great Re - deem - er's praise,
2 My gra - cious Mas - ter and my God, as - sist me to pro - claim,
3 The name of Je - sus charms our fears and bids our sor - rows cease,
4 He speaks, and lis - t'ning to his voice, new life the dead re - ceive;

the glo - ries of my God and king, the tri - umphs of his grace!
to spread through all the earth a - broad the hon - ors of your name.
sings mu - sic in the sin - ner's ears, brings life and health and peace.
the mourn - ful, bro - ken hearts re - joice, the hum - ble poor be - lieve.

5 Look unto him, your Savior own,
O fallen human race!
Look and be saved through faith alone,
be justified by grace!

6 To God all glory, praise, and love
be now and ever giv'n
by saints below and saints above,
the church in earth and heav'n.

Text: Charles Wesley, 1707–1788, alt.
Music: AZMON, Carl G. Gläser, 1784–1829; arr. Lowell Mason, 1792–1872

APOSTLES' CREED

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.

PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

Sustained by God's abundant mercy, let us pray for the church, the world, and all of creation. 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

Let us give as God has so abundantly 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.

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OFFERING PRAYER

Gracious God,

You give us everything we have, we return with joy a portion of our bounty, giving to the work of your church and your world what is already yours: ourselves, our lives, and our means. Make good come from these gifts. Teach us to use what we have with wisdom and compassion. In the name of Jesus, we pray.

Amen.

GREAT THANKSGIVING DIALOGUE

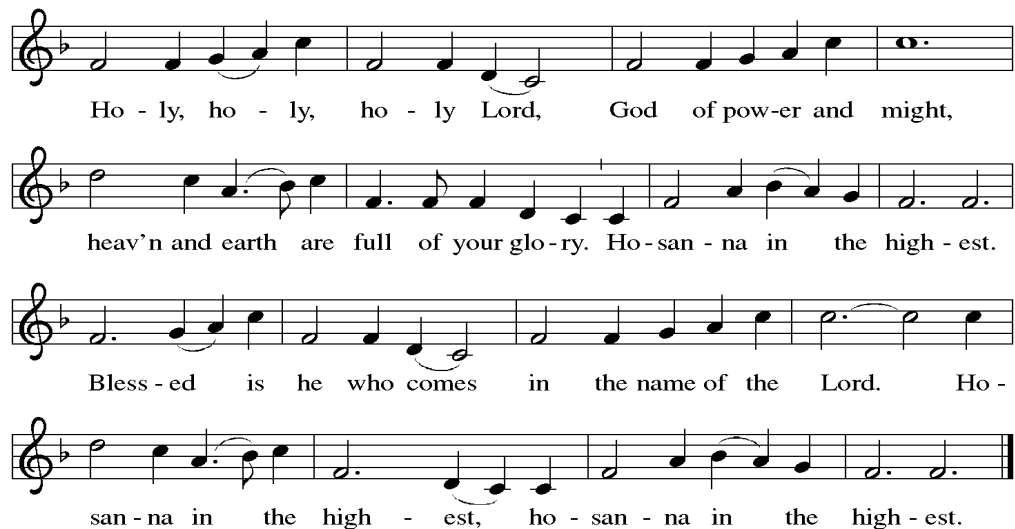
The Lord be with you. **And also with you.**

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; who on this day overcame death and the grave, and by his glorious resurrection opened to us the way of everlasting life. And so, with all the choirs of angels, with the church on earth and the hosts of heaven, 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

Come to this table, not because you must but because you may. Come, because you love God a little and would like to love God more. Come, because Christ loved you and gave himself for you. Come and live in the Spirit, who loves, forgives, and restores. 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.

Holy, Holy, Holy, Lord God Almighty!

1 Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly, Lord God Al - might - y!
 2 Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly! All the saints a - dore thee,
 3 Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly! Though the dark - ness hide thee,
 4 Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly! Lord God Al - might - y!

Ear - ly in the morn - ing our song shall rise to thee.
 cast - ing down their gold - en crowns a - round the glass - y sea;
 though the eye of sin - ful - ness thy glo - ry may not see,
 All thy works shall praise thy name in earth and sky and sea.

Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly, mer - ci - ful and might - y!
 cher - u - bim and ser - a - phim fall - ing down be - fore thee,
 on - ly thou art ho - ly; there is none be - side thee,
 Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly, mer - ci - ful and might - y!

God in three per - sons, bless - ed Trin - i - ty!
 which wert and art, and ev - er - more shalt be.
 per - fect in pow'r, in love and pu - ri - ty,
 God in three per - sons, bless - ed Trin - i - ty!

Text: ReginaM Heber, 1783-1826, alt.
 Musik: NICAEA, John B. Dykes, 1823-1876

Father Most Holy

1 Fa - ther most ho - ly, mer - ci - ful, and ten - der; Je - sus, our
 2 Trin - i - ty bless - ed, u - ni - ty un - shak - en; good - ness un -
 3 Mak - er of all things, all thy crea - tures praise thee; all for thy
 4 Lord God Al - might - y, un - to thee be glo - ry, one in three

Sav - ior, with the Fa - ther reign - ing; Spir - it of com - fort,
 bound - ed, ver - y God of heav - en, light of the an - gels,
 wor - ship were and are cre - at - ed; now, as we al - so
 per - sons, o - ver all ex - alt - ed! Glo - ry we of - fer,

ad - vo - cate, de - fend - er, light nev - er wan - ing,
 joy of those for - sak - en, hope of all liv - ing.
 wor - ship thee de - vout - ly, hear thou our voic - es.
 praise thee and a - dore thee, now and for - ev - er.

Text: Latin hymn, 10th cent.; tr. Percy Dearmer, 1867–1936, alt.
 Music: CHRISTE SANCTORUM, Paris *Auriphoner*, 1681
 Outside USA: Text from *The English Hymnal*, © Oxford University Press 1906.

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PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

Holy God,

You have welcomed us to this meal and fed us with dignity at your table.

Send us now to welcome others and to be at peace with one another, through Jesus Christ our Lord.

Amen.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

BLESSING

May the love of God thrive in your heart,
May the compassion of Christ be heard in your words,
May the movement of the Spirit be seen in your actions,
And may the peace of the Triune † God be with you every day.

Amen.

The Spirit Sends Us Forth to Serve



1 The Spir - it sends us forth to serve; we go in
2 We go to com - fort those who mourn and set the
3 We go to be the hands of Christ, to scat - ter
4 Then let us go to serve in peace, the gos - pel



Je - sus' name to bring glad tid - ings
bur - dened free; where hope is dim, to
joy like seed and, all our days, to
to pro - claim. God's Spir - it has em -



to the poor, God's fa - vor to pro - claim.
share a dream and help the blind to see.
cher - ish life, to do the lov - ing deed.
pow - ered us; we go in Je - sus' name.

Text: Delores Dufner, OSB, b. 1939

Music: CHESTERFIELD, attr. Thomas Haweis, 1734–1820

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DISMISSAL

Take up your cross and follow Jesus. Do not be afraid of what may come.

Thanks be to God.

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Welcome to all! Beloved of Christ, welcome to worship, faith education and Christian fellowship this day. May you sense the embrace of God's love through the people you interact with here.

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

Tuesday, September 17 at 6:30 p.m. the Adult Study will discuss Chapters 1-4 from the Gospel of Matthew.

Monday, September 23 at 6:30 p.m. The Book Club will discuss, *Strangers Tend To Tell Me Things: A Memoir of Love, Loss, and Coming Home* By Amy Dickinson.

Sunday, October 13 at 10:00 a.m. Chili Dinner & Raffle! Sign-up sheets are now in narthex! We are looking for helpers to make our chili dinner and raffle a success. Please note, all food items need to be at St. John by October 11th if you have immediate questions contact Barb Paulsen or Linda Graveen (raffle items).

Sunday, October 13 at 10:15 a.m. discussion and approval of St. John's constitution! As per St. John's constitution guidelines, the constitution itself needs periodic updates. This is a long document and limited copies are available. You are welcome to take one home, but please bring it back when you are done. If you would like an electronic copy, ask Pastor Maggie.

Maine Elementary School, Snacks Drive: As we kick off our education season at St. John, we would like to also support our neighborhood school, Maine Elementary School! Time is set aside for a snack every day, but not every student has the resources to bring a snack each day. Teachers tend to provide snacks to these students, paying for them on their own. We'd like to help with that! The school is in need of individually packaged snacks, no nuts/peanuts, and they prefer cracker/pretzel type snacks (not sugar/cookie type snacks). Thank you for your generosity and support to Maine Elementary!

St. John Cemetery Association Needs Your Help! Our cemetery needs your help. If you have family or friends buried at our cemetery, we could use your support. We have many fallen-down stones that require perpetual care. Please reach out to Sara Stubbe for details. If you know of any non-St. John member with family or friends buried here, please share this request. The Association is also looking for lawn care help (about 4 hours/5 times per summer). If interested, please contact Sara at 715-571-2584 or mskr.stubbe@gmail.com.

Kwik Trip Gift Cards Sign-up in the Fellowship Hall. Help support St. John when buying groceries, gas, or getting your car washed at Kwik Trip! **In the month of September, there is an extra 5% on cards purchased. This means Gas cards are 10% donation and Grocery cards are 20% donation.**

Men's Breakfast. Pastor Will from Trinity in Stettin and St. Peter's in Marathon has invited all men from St. John to meet the second Saturday of the month at 8:00 a.m. At LC Restaurant, in Marathon (Formerly the Village Inn). The first gathering will be Saturday, September, 14 at 8:00 a.m.

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 September 15 – September 22

Today

9:00 a.m. Worship
10:15 a.m. Sunday School

September 17

9:00 a.m. Pr. Maggie @ Pr. Meeting
6:30 p.m. Gospel of Matthew Session 1

September 18

6:30 p.m. Confirmation

September 22

9:00 a.m. Worship
10:15 a.m. Sunday School