

# SEVENTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

July 16, 2023  
8:00am & 10:45am



## St. John Lutheran Church and School

The Lutheran Church-Missouri Synod

Reverend Jeff Caithamer

revcaithamer - at - gmail.com

School Principal: Cheryl Black

<b>Divine Service III with Holy Communion</b>	<b>Page</b>
<i>*stand as you are able</i>	
<b>Hymn</b> <i>All Praise to Thee, for Thou, O King Divine</i>	<b>815</b>
*Invocation, Confession, Absolution	184
*Introit	dated insert
*Kyrie	186
*Gloria in Excelsis	187
*Salutation & Collect	189
First Reading	
Gradual	dated insert
Epistle Reading	
*Alleluia	190
*Gospel Reading	
*Nicene Creed	191
<b>Hymn</b> <i>Almighty God, Your Word Is Cast</i>	<b>577</b>
Sermon " <i>The Word of the Kingdom</i> " Matthew 13:1-9,18-23	
*Offertory	192
Gathering of Tithes and Offering	
*Prayers	193
*Service of the Sacrament	194
<b>Communion Hymns – 623, 725, 652</b>	
*Nunc Dimittis	199
*Thanksgiving	200
*Prayer and Benediction	201

**WELCOME TO ST. JOHN!** We ask members and guests to fill out an attendance card located by the hymnals; indicate your attendance at Holy Communion. Cards may be placed in the offering plate. Note that there are two glasses in the center of each tray with diluted wine.

**SERVING TODAY – Preaching & Presiding:** Rev. Jeff Caithamer. **Organist:** Trevor Good. **Elders:** 8:00 – Dan, Mike, Jeremy, Dan; 10:45 – Harold, Steve, Phil, Chuck. **Ushers:** 8:00 – Peter & Alex; 10:45 – Noah & Eli.

**ABOUT THE LORD’S SUPPER:** Our congregation is a member of The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod, a family of congregations who pledge themselves to teach and to believe the same doctrines. We invite those persons who are members in good standing of a congregation of The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod or of a church in fellowship with the LCMS to receive the sacrament. We want to express our sincere welcome to guests and to assure them that it is in their spiritual interest that we practice closed communion. Guests desiring to learn more about our beliefs are asked to make an appointment to speak with our pastor.

**OUR CONGREGATIONAL FAMILY** – The altar flowers are given today by Cindy in honor of Andy’s birthday today. We also remember the following people in our prayers: *hospitalized:* Louise; *for healing and recovery:* Rev. Doug Evenson, Ellie, Sherry, Lydia, Robin, Greg, David, Karla, Charlene, Brian, Teresa, Barbara, John, Hendricks, Maria, Merv, Rebecca, Roy, Todd, Brett; *for successful treatments:* Rod, Dan, Nancy, Barb, Luke, Earl, Linda, Joan, Jeanette, Nancy; *for those in the military:* Nick, Andy, Brandon, Zachary, David; *for our homebound:* Gaylord, Lavina.

For requests for the prayer chain or to be added to the chain:

<http://stjohnmedia.org/church/PrayerList.html>

Voter’s Meeting – There will be a Voter’s Meeting on Sunday, July 31<sup>st</sup> at 1:00pm in the

## **OUR WEEK AHEAD**

**Today**      *7<sup>th</sup> Sunday after Pentecost*; 8:00 Holy Communion; 9:30 Adult Bible Class, Sunday School; 10:45 Holy Communion

**Tuesday**    10:00 Adult Bible Class; 6:00 Council

**Wednesday** 7:15 Holy Communion

**Thursday**   *Newsletter Deadline*

**Friday**      6:00 Youth Group

**Sunday**      *8<sup>th</sup> Sunday after Pentecost*; 8:00 Holy Communion; 9:30 Adult Bible Class, Sunday School; 10:45 Holy Communion

**Floor Work** – This week the floors in the upstairs wing of the school & the gym hallway will be stripped and polished. The hallway from the school entry doors to the fellowship hall doors & the gym hallway will be inaccessible while work is happening. Thank you.

**Youth Group** – Our next event will be this Friday, July 21 from 6-9pm at the church. Wear clothes and shoes that can get wet for water games. SJL Youth T-shirt orders are due July 31. Email Karen for the shirt order form link or with questions

**Witness & Outreach** – Matthew 13:1-9, 18-23: In our Old Testament and Gospel lessons for today, God is revealing His amazing grace for our lives in earthly language. When God speaks, wonderful things happen, but when we speak for ourselves, not so much. He gives us every reason to speak His Word to the world, knowing that we have a 100% guarantee that His Word will produce an effect and not return to Him empty. But, just like the hardened path, the shallow rocky soil and the thorny weedy soil, we fail to listen and produce the harvest the Lord intends. In worship, we rejoice in God's saving Word and we pray that we will be faithful to use this Word and spread this seed that bears the miracle of an abundant harvest with every Word we share with others. Pray for God's saving purpose to be made known through your daily encounters with people. When someone asks you, "What's the good word today?" Why not share one – a Word from God knowing that when it is spoken – things happen.

**Educating a New Generation of Lutherans** – Issues, Etc. is a radio talk show and podcast produced by Lutheran Public Radio in Collinsville, IL and hosted by LCMS Pastor Todd Wilken. This week's subjects include: The Movies "Sound of Freedom" and "Indiana Jones and the Dial of Destiny;" An Attempt by Concordia University Texas to Reject the Governance & Oversight of the LCMS; Truth & Tolerance; Female Pastors & the Lutheran Church of Australia and more. You can listen on-demand at [issuesetc.org](http://issuesetc.org), the LPR mobile app and your favorite podcast provider.

## **EDUCATION HOUR TODAY**

**Adult Bible Class** – led by Pastor Caithamer in the Fellowship Hall

**Sunday School** – Summer Sunday School has begun. Kindergarten through High School will meet in the Sanctuary for opening before class. Preschool will meet in their room for opening. Parents, please note the room changes.

3/4yrs Room 4C

6<sup>th</sup>&7<sup>th</sup>

Help with Younger Grades

K-2<sup>nd</sup> Room 2C

High School Youth Room

3<sup>rd</sup>-5<sup>th</sup> Room 1C

**July Newsletter** – Hard copies of the July Newsletter are available on the narthex table.

Pastor Caithamer has sent out an electronic copy through email. If you are not on Pastor's email list but would like to be, please contact the church office. Thank you.

**VBS Thank You** – A huge thank you to everyone who was involved with the VBS process.

Whether you helped during the week, gave monetary or snack donations, or even just prayed, you helped make this a great time. It's such a blessing to be at a congregation who is willing to give in so many ways toward the sharing of God's word with the children who were in attendance.

**Sunday School Teachers Needed** – We want to give our teachers a break for the summer.

We are still in need of teachers to fill a few spots in July. The sign-up sheet is on the bulletin board by the church office. The material will be provided. If you have any questions, please contact Cindy Jones at [c-jones45@hotmail.com](mailto:c-jones45@hotmail.com) or (217)369-2568.

**Ladies of the Church** – The summer issue of the Lutheran Women's Quarterly has arrived.

These are available to anyone, so pick up your copy of it or any of the previous issues, from the table in the narthex. You will find a Bible study, interesting articles from other LWML zones, and feature stories. Linda

**Keys & Fobs** – Those who are no longer on a board or in need of their keys or fobs, please return them to the church office. Thank you.

**Network Server** – We are currently in the process of transferring information back onto our computers. Membership information from 2023 may have been lost when our server went down. If anyone has had updates in the past year, please contact the church office to make sure we have the correct membership information (addresses, phone numbers, etc.) on file. Thank you.

**Office Hours** – The Church Office’s summer hours are 10am-2pm. The School Office will not have regular office hours. If you need to get in touch with the School Office staff for any reason over the summer, please call the school office at (217) 359-1714. Messages will be checked regularly. You may also reach them through email at [kschmidt@stjohns.com](mailto:kschmidt@stjohns.com).

**LEARN BY HEART**  
***THE FAMILY ALTAR***

The families of St. John are encouraged to learn these words from the Small Catechism by heart this week:

Review: The Lord’s Prayer

The Seventh Petition – But deliver us from evil.

*What does this mean?* We pray in this petition, in summary, that our Father in heaven would rescue us from every evil of body and soul, possessions and reputation, and finally, when our last hour comes, give us a blessed end, and graciously take us from this valley of sorrow to Himself in heaven.

The Conclusion – For Thine is the kingdom and the power and the glory forever and ever. Amen.

*What does this mean?* This means that I should be certain that these petitions are pleasing to our Father in heaven, and are heard by Him; for He Himself has commanded us to pray in this way and has promised to hear us. Amen, amen means “yes, yes, it shall be so.”

Bible Passage: Yet you are he who took me from the womb; you made me trust you at my mother’s breasts. On you was I cast from my birth, and from my mother’s womb you have been my God. Psalm 22:9-10

Psalm 136:1-9, 23-26