

St. John's Evangelical Lutheran Church June 29, 2025

ST. JOHN'S EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH

106 Scheid Road, Sandusky, OH 44870 (419) 625-2192 www.stjohnlcsandusky.com Sanctuary Worship 9:30 a.m. Live streamed to Facebook

Stacy Lauer-Scovanner, Pastor

June 29, 2025

Third Sunday after Pentecost

Welcome to Worship! We have no good apart from God. That makes Jesus' call to follow him an invitation to freedom. This is freedom to revel in the Spirit's fruit: love, joy, peace, and patience. This is freedom to not be imprisoned by anything that would keep us from the fullness of the life God has given us. This is the path of life.

As Lutheran Christians, we believe and teach that Christ is truly present in the celebration of Holy Communion as he is God with us. Christians of all denominations are encouraged to come to the Lord's table. We commune children of any age who have received communion instruction at St. John or another Christian church. Children who have not yet received communion instruction will receive a blessing. Both red wine and white grape juice are offered to accommodate various traditions. Gluten free wafers are provided for those with dietary restrictions. Please make the pastor aware of your need.

We thank Pastor Ann Marshall for leading our worship while Pastor Stacy is taking time for continuing education and vacation. If you are visiting today, please sign the guest register after worship. Plan to worship with us again next Sunday.

Bells

Welcome and announcements

Gathering

The Holy Spirit calls us together as the people of God.

Please stand if you are able

Confession and Forgiveness

Blessed be the holy Trinity, + one God, who forgives all our sin, whose mercy endures forever.

Amen.

Almighty God, to whom all hearts are open, all desires known, and from whom no secrets are hid: cleanse the thoughts of our hearts by the inspiration of your Holy Spirit, that we may perfectly love you and worthily magnify your holy name, through Jesus Christ our Lord.

Amen.

Let us confess our sin in the presence of God and of one another. Gracious God,

have mercy on us. We confess that we have turned from you and given ourselves into the power of sin. We are truly sorry and humbly repent. In your compassion forgive us our sins, known and unknown, things we have done and things we have failed to do. Turn us again to you, and uphold us by your Spirit, so that we may live and serve you in newness of life through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.

God, who is rich in mercy, loved us even when we were dead in sin, and made us alive together with Christ. By grace you have been saved. In the name of + Jesus Christ, your sins are forgiven. Almighty God strengthen you with power through the Holy Spirit, that Christ may live in your hearts through faith.

Amen.

Gathering Hymn "Awake, O Sleeper, Rise from Death" Text © 1980 Augsburg Publishing House, admin. Augsburg Fortress

1 Awake, O sleeper, rise from death, and Christ shall give you light; from so learn his love, its length and breadth, to go its fullness, depth, and height.

3 There is one body and one hope, one Spirit and one call, one Lord, one faith, and one baptism, one God who made us all.

5 For us Christ lived, for us he died, and conquered in the strife.

2 To us on earth he came to bring from sin and fear release, to give the Spirit's unity, the very bond of peace. ELW 452

4 Then walk in love as Christ has loved, who died that he might save; with kind and gentle hearts forgive as God in Christ forgave.

Awake, arise, go forth in faith, and Christ shall give you life.

Greeting

The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

And also with you.

Kyrie



Prayer of the Day

Let us pray.

Sovereign God, ruler of all hearts, you call us to obey you, and you favor us with true freedom. Keep us faithful to the ways of your Son, that, leaving behind all that hinders us, we may steadfastly follow your paths, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.

Please be seated

First Reading: 1 Kings 19:15-16, 19-21

A reading from 1 Kings.

In the story preceding today's reading, the prophet Elijah flees for his life to the security of God's mountain. There God reveals to Elijah that there are still other faithful people in Israel and commissions him to anoint new leaders, including his own successor, Elisha.

¹⁵ Then the LORD said to [Elijah,] "Go, return on your way to the wilderness of Damascus; when you arrive, you shall anoint Hazael as king over Aram. ¹⁶ Also you shall anoint Jehu son of Nimshi as king over Israel; and you shall anoint Elisha son of Shaphat of Abel-meholah as prophet in your place."

¹⁹ So he set out from there, and found Elisha son of Shaphat, who was plowing. There were twelve yoke of oxen ahead of him, and he was with the twelfth. Elijah passed by him and threw his mantle over him. ²⁰ He left the oxen, ran after Elijah, and said, "Let me kiss my father and my mother, and then I will follow you." Then Elijah said to him, "Go back again; for what have I done to you?" ²¹ He returned from following him, took the yoke of oxen, and slaughtered them; using the equipment from the oxen, he boiled their flesh, and gave it to the people, and they ate. Then he set out and followed Elijah, and became his servant.

The word of the Lord. Thanks be to God.

Psalm: Psalm 16 (Read responsively)

- ¹ Protect me, O God, for I take refuge in you;
 - I have said to the LORD, "You are my Lord, my good above all other."
 - ² All my delight is in the godly that are in the land, upon those who are noble among the people.
 - ³ But those who run after other gods shall have their troubles multiplied.
 - ⁴ I will not pour out drink offerings to such gods, never take their names upon my lips.
 - ⁵O LORD, you are my portion and my cup; it is you who uphold my lot.
 - ⁶ My boundaries enclose a pleasant land; indeed, I have a rich inheritance.
 - ⁷ I will bless the LORD who gives me counsel; my heart teaches me night after night.

- ⁸ I have set the LORD always before me; because God is at my right hand, I shall not be shaken.
- ⁹ My heart, therefore, is glad, and my spirit rejoices; my body also shall rest in hope.
- ¹⁰ For you will not abandon me to the grave, nor let your holy one see the pit.
- ¹¹ You will show me the path of life; in your presence there is fullness of joy, and in your right hand are pleasures forevermore.

Second Reading Galatians 5:1, 13-25

A reading from Galatians.

For Paul, the freedom Christ gives is not permission to do whatever we want. It is the invitation to be what we could not be otherwise. The power and guidance of Christ's Holy Spirit produce a different kind of life, one marked by the fruit of this Holy Spirit.

¹ For freedom Christ has set us free. Stand firm, therefore, and do not submit again to a yoke of slavery.

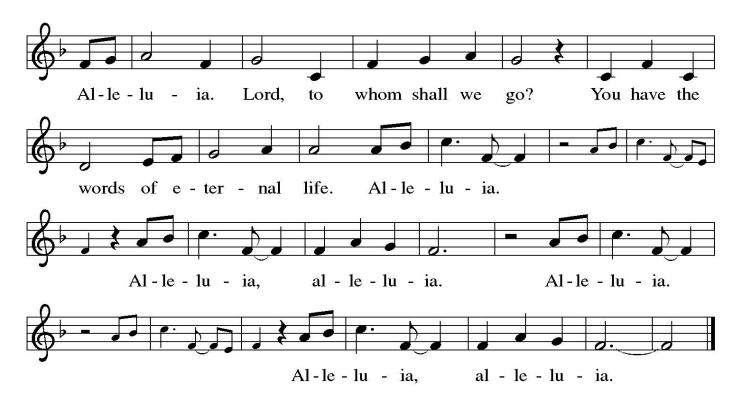
¹³ For you were called to freedom, brothers and sisters; only do not use your freedom as an opportunity for self-indulgence, but through love become slaves to one another. ¹⁴ For the whole law is summed up in a single commandment, "You shall love your neighbor as yourself." ¹⁵ If, however, you bite and devour one another, take care that you are not consumed by one another.

¹⁶ Live by the Spirit, I say, and do not gratify the desires of the flesh. ¹⁷ For what the flesh desires is opposed to the Spirit, and what the Spirit desires is opposed to the flesh; for these are opposed to each other, to prevent you from doing what you want. ¹⁸ But if you are led by the Spirit, you are not subject to the law. ¹⁹ Now the works of the flesh are obvious: fornication, impurity, licentiousness, ²⁰ idolatry, sorcery, enmities, strife, jealousy, anger, quarrels, dissensions, factions, ²¹ envy, drunkenness, carousing, and things like these. I am warning you, as I warned you before: those who do such things will not inherit the kingdom of God.

²² By contrast, the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, generosity, faithfulness, ²³ gentleness, and self-control. There is no law against such things. ²⁴ And those who belong to Christ Jesus have crucified the flesh with its passions and desires. ²⁵ If we live by the Spirit, let us also be guided by the Spirit.

The word of the Lord. Thanks be to God.

Gospel Acclamation



Gospel: Luke 9:51-62

The holy gospel according to Luke.

Glory to you, O Lord.

Jesus is unwavering in his commitment to his mission in Jerusalem and will not be swayed by pettiness. In a series of striking cases in point, he calls his disciples to a similar single-mindedness.

⁵¹ When the days drew near for [Jesus] to be taken up, he set his face to go to Jerusalem.

⁵² And he sent messengers ahead of him. On their way they entered a village of the Samaritans to make ready for him; ⁵³ but they did not receive him, because his face was set toward Jerusalem. ⁵⁴ When his disciples James and John saw it, they said, "Lord, do you want us to command fire to come down from heaven and consume them?" ⁵⁵ But he turned and rebuked them. ⁵⁶ Then they went on to another village.

⁵⁷ As they were going along the road, someone said to him, "I will follow you wherever you go." ⁵⁸ And Jesus said to him, "Foxes have holes, and birds of the air have nests; but the Son of Man has nowhere to lay his head." ⁵⁹ To another he said, "Follow me." But he said, "Lord, first let me go and bury my father." ⁶⁰ But Jesus said to him, "Let the dead bury their own dead; but as for you, go and proclaim the kingdom of God." ⁶¹ Another said, "I will follow you, Lord; but let me first say farewell to those at my

home." ⁶² Jesus said to him, "No one who puts a hand to the plow and looks back is fit for the kingdom of God."

The gospel of the Lord. Praise to you, O Christ.

Please be seated.

Youth Time

Sermon

Please stand if you are able

Hymn of the Day

"Lord Jesus, You Shall Be My Song"

ELW 808

Text and music © Les Petites Soeurs de Jésus, admin. Augsburg Fortress Tr. © 1970 Stephen Somerville, admin. Augsburg Fortress

1 Lord Jesus, you shall be my song as I journey; I'll tell ev'rybody about you wherever I go: you alone are our life and our peace and our love. Lord Jesus, you shall be my song as I journey.

2 Lord Jesus, I'll praise you as long as I journey. May all of my joy be a faithful reflection of you. May the earth and the sea and the sky join my song. Lord Jesus, I'll praise you as long as I journey.

3 As long as I live, Jesus, make me your servant, to carry your cross and to share all your burdens and tears.

and tears.

For you saved me by giving your body and blood.

As long as I live, Jesus, make me your servant.

4 I fear in the dark and the doubt of my journey; but courage will come with the sound of your steps by my side.

And with all of the family you saved by your love, we'll sing to your dawn at the end of our journey.

Prayers of the people:

Response: God of grace,

hear our prayer.

Peace

The peace of Christ be with you always.

And also with you.

Please be seated

Offering

"Lord Jesus, You Shall Be My Song"

Text and music © Les Petites Soeurs de Jésus, admin. Augsburg Fortress Tr. © 1970 Stephen Somerville, admin. Augsburg Fortress

Please stand if you are able

Offertory

"Come to the Table"

ELW **481**

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Come to the table of mercy, prepared with the wine and the bread. All who are hungry and thirsty, come, and your souls will be fed.

Come at the Lord's invitation; receive from his nail-scarred hand. Eat of the bread of salvation; drink of the blood of the Lamb.

Offering Prayer

Blessed are you, O God, maker of all things. Through your goodness you have blessed us with these gifts: our selves, our time, and our possessions. Use us, and what we have gathered, in feeding the world with your love, through the one who gave himself for us, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

Amen.

Great Thanksgiving

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Lift up your hearts.

We lift them to the Lord.

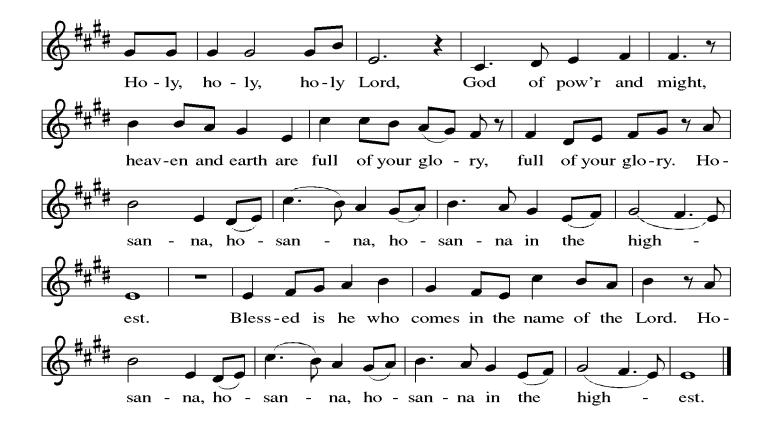
Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right to give our thanks and praise.

Preface

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. You reveal your glory as the glory of the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit: equal in majesty, undivided in splendor, one Lord, one God, ever to be adored in your eternal glory. 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:

Holy, Holy, Holy



Thanksgiving at the Table

In the night in which he was betrayed, our Lord Jesus took bread, and gave thanks; broke it, and gave it to his disciples, saying: Take and eat; this is my body, given for you. Do this for the remembrance of me.

Again, after supper, he took the cup, gave thanks, and gave it for all to drink, saying:
This cup is the new covenant in my blood, shed for you and all people for the forgiveness of sin.
Do this for the remembrance of me.

The Lord's Prayer

Gathered into one by the Holy Spirit, let us pray as Jesus taught us.

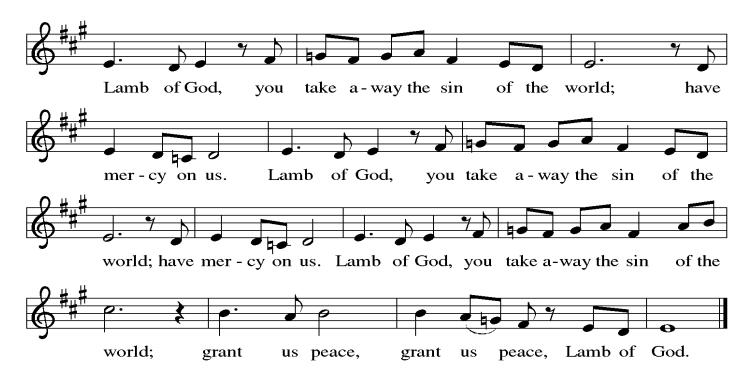
Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name, thy kingdom come, thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread; and forgive us our trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us; and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever and ever. Amen

Invitation to Communion

Taste and see that the Lord is good.

Please be seated

Communion Song



Distribution Hymn

"Be Thou My Vision"

ELW **793**

Text: Irish, 8th cent.; vers. Eleanor H. Hull, 1860-1935, alt.; tr. Mary E. Byrne, 1880-1931 Music: Irish traditional Public Domain

- 1 Be thou my vision, O Lord of my heart; naught be all else to me, save that thou art: thou my best thought both by day and by night, waking or sleeping, thy presence my light.
- 3 Riches I heed not, nor vain, empty praise, thou mine inheritance, now and always: thou and thou only, the first in my heart, great God of heaven, my treasure thou art.
- 2 Be thou my wisdom, and thou my true word; I ever with thee and thou with me, Lord. Thou my soul's shelter, and thou my high tow'r, raise thou me heav'nward, O Pow'r of my pow'r.
- 4 Light of my soul, after victory won, may I reach heaven's joys, O heaven's Sun! Heart of my own heart, whatever befall, still be my vision, O Ruler of all.

Distribution Hymn

"Let Us Break Bread Together"

ELW **471**

Text: African American spiritual Music: African American spiritual Public Domain

1 Let us break bread together on our knees; let us break bread together on our knees.

2 Let us drink wine together on our knees; let us drink wine together on our knees. Refrain

Refrain
When I fall on my knees,
with my face to the rising sun,
O Lord, have mercy on me.
Please stand if you are able

3 Let us praise God together on our knees; let us praise God together on our knees. Refrain

Post Communion Blessing

The body and blood of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ strengthen you and keep you in His care.

Amen

Prayer After Communion

Let us pray.

O God, our life, our strength, our food, we give you thanks for sustaining us with the body and blood of your Son. By your Holy Spirit, enliven us to be his body in the world, that more and more we will give you praise and serve your earth and its many peoples, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

Amen.

Sending

God blesses us and sends us in mission to the world.

Blessing

The Lord bless you and keep you. The Lord's face shine on you with grace and mercy. The Lord look upon you with favor and give you peace.

Amen

Sending Hymn

"Here I Am, Lord"

ELW **574**

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1 "I, the Lord of sea and sky, I have heard my people cry. All who dwell in dark and sin my hand will save. I, who made the stars of night, I will make their darkness bright. Who will bear my light to them? Whom shall I send?"

2 "I, the Lord of snow and rain, I have borne my people's pain. I have wept for love of them. They turn away. give them hearts for love alone. I will speak my word to them.

I will break their hearts of stone, Whom shall I send?" Refrain

Refrain Here I am, Lord. Is it I, Lord? I have heard you calling in the night. I will go, Lord, if you lead me. I will hold your people in my heart.

3 "I, the Lord of wind and flame, I will tend the poor and lame. I will set a feast for them. My hand will save. Finest bread I will provide till their hearts be satisfied. I will give my life to them. Whom shall I send?" Refrain

Dismissal

Go in peace. Serve the Lord! Thanks be to God.

Postlude

"Here I Am, Lord"

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> St. John's Evangelical Lutheran Church is: "A Family of Disciples, Faithfully Making Christ Known" And a congregation of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America (ELCA)

PEOPLE OF ST. JOHN'S, MINISTERS

Stacy Lauer-Scovanner, Pastor Pastor Stacy's Day Off – Friday Mrs. Sandy Thompson, Admin.

Church: 419-625-2192 Cell: 419-680-0358

419-625-2192

E-mail: Sandy8110@gmail.com

Lay Reader: Paula Hoffman Laws

Communion Assistant: Paula Hoffman Laws

Attendance: July 15 - 46

Organist: Nathan Samsa

Usher: Chuck Thompson Audio/Visual Tech: Brandon Alt

Website: www.stjohnlcsandusky.com

Like us on Facebook: St. John's Lutheran Church, Sandusky

2025: The Year of Rest Memory Verse

"Incline your ear, and come to me; listen, so that you may live..." (Isaiah 55:3a).

Council asks the congregation to pray for all those who work to keep our Giving Garden healthy and growing in order to provide food assistance to those in need. And we continue to pray for peace throughout the world.

Pastor Stacy is taking time for continuing education and vacation. If you have any pastoral need, please contact the church phone and we will be in contact to answer your needs. Pastor Stacy returns on Sunday, July 6th.

Communion Clean-up today: Sue & Lynn Schlessman

29 – Set-up – Elizabeth Libben Cleanup – Sue & Lynn Schlessman Thank you for your willingness to help with this important ministry. If you would like to help, please see Toni Nossaman, Joleen Dillender or Sandy Thompson.

Thank you! We are so grateful for the generous gifts of diapers and wipes—we truly feel the love and support of our church family during this special season. Thank you for blessing us in such a meaningful way.

We can't wait to bring Baby Burnham to church and introduce them to such a loving family! With heartfelt thanks, Jenna and Jacob Burnham

Thank you! A tremendous, <u>fortissimo</u>, and *jubilant* thank you to our ringers and singers as we worshipped Jesus together this year and had the finale on June 22. Thank you for extending the musical season to include the visitation of Bishop Daniel. Walt Baughman

Thank you! Members of St. John's. On behalf of Serving Our Seniors, thank you for your generous "noisy coin" \$166.93 donation on May 4, 2025. We are sincerely grateful for your support in helping us serve the aging population of Erie County. Sue Daugherty, Exe. Director

Your help needed: God's Word Near Day Camp, 2025
July 14-18

As the committee prepares for this week of excitement and learning for our youth, you too can help out by donating an item! Take a leaf from the tree in back of the sanctuary and leave the item listed in the designated box.

Please return your donation by June 30.

Thank you for your willingness to assist in this very important ministry.

Share your talents: July 13 we will have a talent show during 9:30 worship. We did this a couple of years ago and it was wonderful! Would you like to share a poem, a song, a painting, or any talent you have? We need to know who is willing to share their talents by June 25.

Summer Outdoor Service: St. John's and Zion, Huron join in worship to celebrate our Day Camp Week on Sunday, July 20th at Nickel Plate Park, Huron. Worship begins at 9:30 am. Please bring pantry items in support of our joint service project to help the local food bank. No sanctuary worship or live streaming at either church that Sunday.

Scholarship applications will be available during the month of June for members of St. John's attending post-secondary education. Application forms can be obtained at the church. Please complete the form with your information and mail it to the church: St. John's Lutheran Church, c/o the Scholarship Team 106 Scheid Rd., Sandusky, Ohio 44870. Applications must be returned by June 30, 2025 to be eligible for the scholarship. Recipients will be announced in July or August.

Endowment Grant Applications are being accepted: please contact a member of the endowment team and they will be glad to mail you an application. The requests need to be presented to the Endowment committee no later than October 5, 2025. You can mail the application back to the church, put your request in the endowment mailbox in the basement or present it to any member of the committee. The committee members are John Miller, Ted Call, Jeff Justi, Bob Stacy, Kathy Schlessman, Ron Zorn, Pastor Stacy. If you have any questions, please see a member of the endowment committee.

The Endowment Team will hold its quarterly meeting in mid to late October, at which time all grant applications that have been presented will be reviewed and voted on. Those that are approved will be sent to the Finance Team for additional review and approval.

Day Camp News! Volunteer forms and registration forms are available for Day Camp, which will be held July 14-18. If you will volunteer at all that week, please fill out a form because LOMO (Lutheran Outdoor Ministries in Ohio) won't let us volunteer without them. If you want to sign up your kids, do so quickly! We can only take 40 kids! The cost is \$50 for the first kid in a family, \$40 for the second, and so on. If you need financial assistance, please let me know! This is for all kids K-6.

Happy Birthday to Jerry Bauer and David Schlessman.

Weekly Listening Plan

June 2025

Sanctuary Song (Campfire Song)

Week 5 – "Lord prepare me, to be a sanctuary."

Enjoy the song selection video.

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=j6CgM0jevg0&t=25s

- 1. Read and reflect on the scripture that inspired the song. 1 Corintians 3:16
- 2. Explore weekly practices connected to the lyrics throughout your week.
- 3. What does sanctuary mean to you? What does it mean to your neighbor? How might God be preparing you to be a sanctuary?

4.

ST. JOHN'S CALENDAR FOR JUNE 29TH THRU JULY 13TH

<i></i>	<u> </u>	J
Sunday, June 29	9:30 am	Worship
Tuesday, July 1	9:00 am	Giving Garden fellowship and weeding
Sunday, July 6	9:30 am	Worship
Tuesday, July 8	9:00 am	Giving Garden fellowship and weeding
Sunday, July 13	9:30 am	Worship